RESULTS OF THE JACKSON TOWN MEETING MARCH 12, 2020

Polls were opened at 8:00 AM and closed at 7:00 PM on March 10, 2020 by Moderator Willis Kelley to vote on Article One and Two.

Moderator Kelley officially opens the continued town meeting for the business of the deliberative portion of the meeting for the year 2020. Moderator Kelley then led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance and one verse of God Bless America.

Article 01
ELECTION OF OFFICERS

To choose the necessary officers for the ensuing year.

Library Trustee - 3 year term
Moderator 2 year term
Selectman - 3 year term
Selectman - 1 year term
Supervisor of the Checklist - 6 year term
Town Clerk / Tax Collector - 3 year term
Treasurer - 3 year term
Trustee of Cemeteries - 3 year term
Trustee of Trust Funds 3 year term

Linda Terry - 231
Willis Kelley - 237
John Allen - 173
Dick Bennett - 200
Kevin Donohoe - 230
Karen Burton - 248
Kathleen Dougherty - 236
Barbara Theriault - 247
Dan Andrews - 234

Article 02
AMENDMENT #1 - ZONING ORDINANCE

To see if the Town will vote to adopt amendment No. 1 to the Town’s Zoning Ordinance to revise Section 4, Districts and District Regulations, to add a new section 4.4 entitled “Short Term Rentals,” which defines “Short Term Rental” as a dwelling unit where transient lodging is provided for compensation for stays of between one and 30 consecutive nights, and where the dwelling unit would normally be considered a residential living unit not associated with regulated commercial activities such as a hotel, motel or bed-and-breakfast. Section 4.4 also requires the owner of a Short Term Rental property to apply to the Board of Selectmen for a Conditional Use Permit, and it sets forth a process for the Selectmen to approve or disapprove the application for a Conditional Use Permit after Planning Board review. Section 4.4 also sets forth the responsibilities of a Short Term Rental owner, limits the number of Short Term Rentals in the Rural Residential District, sets forth a process for fines, penalties and revocation of a Conditional Use Permit, and allows for the possibility for an inspection based on reports of nuisances or other dangers to the public health. Short Term Rentals in existence in the Rural Residential District at the time of adoption of this ordinance shall be exempt from the restriction on the number of annual rentals.
Proposed by the Planning Board. Recommended by the Planning Board (7, O, O) and Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (2, O, 1)

Vote: Passed

Article 03
OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Selectmen’s recommended Operating Budget of the Town in the amount of $2,307,372 not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 3-0
a way is anything that doesn't fall into the definition of a way, a driveway, a field that you can skateboard on with one of those 4-wheel drive skateboards." John Allen, "Sidewalk? How about a sidewalk?" Chief Perley, "A sidewalk is defined as a sidewalk, so it would not be a public way for vehicles." John Allen," So skateboarders can't be on a sidewalk." Chief Perley, "I think that is covered in this section." Jay Feenan, "I'm just kind of curious, because, you know during my life, a scooter has always been something larger than a moped. A moped was less than 50cc's. A moped would be a scooter according to this." Chief Perley, "No, because a moped is otherwise defined by statute as a moped. It has a specific designation. That's an assist vehicle." Peter Benson, "I think the intention is good but this is confusing. Wheeled conveyances change all the time. Just to say skateboards and scooters, is somewhat confusing. I think a lot of this came about because the state finally paved some of our roads in the past year or two. The asphalt was smooth so we saw a lot of people, or increased use by skateboarders and scooters. In my barn, I have a rip-stick. I have rollerskis. There's been a mono board, at times it gets really tricky defining the terms as to what's going to be regulated and what isn't going to be regulated. I don't know, it's a skateboard, man. I mean, I don't want to pick on these skateboarders. I own one. I think, live and let live. Live free or die. If you're going down a hill you might die." Chief Perley, "I just want to clarify. There won't be any confusion as to what the conveyance is and I know technology changes. That's why we specifically identify what the conveyances would be. So the user would know, the officer would know, the courts would know what they need to know. It's not a blurry, generic, today that's a skateboard, tomorrow it's not. It's defined by statute. This isn't about hunting down skateboarders, it's about public safety. We get regular complaints about skateboarders who are on the wrong side of the road, who travel and pass vehicles, and so and so forth. I don't want their rights and privileges to be totally eliminated but also, I want everyone to be safe. That's all."

Vote: Defeated

Article 15
RESOLUTION ON CLIMATE POLLUTION- PETITIONED
To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following resolution:
We the town of Jackson hereby call upon our State and Federal elected representatives to enact carbon-pricing legislation to protect New Hampshire from the costs and environmental risks of continued climate inaction. To protect households, we support a Carbon Fee and Dividend approach that charges fossil fuel producers for their carbon pollution and rebates the money collected to all residents on an equal basis. Enacting a Carbon Cash-Back program decreases long-term fossil-fuel dependence, aids in the economic transition for energy consumers, and keeps local energy dollars in New Hampshire's economy. Carbon Cash-Back has been championed by US economists (Jan 17, 2019 WSJ) as the most effective and fair way to deliver rapid reductions in harmful carbon emissions at the scale required for our safety.

We expect our representatives to lead in this critical moment for the health and well-being of our citizens and for the protection of New Hampshire's natural resources upon which we all rely.

The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice to Jackson's State Legislators, to the Governor of New Hampshire, to Jackson's Congressional Delegation, and to the President of the United States, informing them of the instructions from their constituents, by Jackson's Select Board, within 30 days of this vote.
DISCUSSION

Sarah Clemons this was a discussion at a selectmen's meeting and there was a few of us there, that thought this was political rather than something about running our town. Dawson Winch I think we all agree that carbon needs to be reduced and fossil fuels, but what are the alternatives. What's the definition of fossil free producer? We all produce greenhouse gas emissions every time we get in our cars, so just a clarification what is a fossil fuel producer and are we petitioning the government to do something and what are the alternatives to that? Bruce Curtis-McLane I would like to read a brief statement:

Article #15 gives Jackson voters a chance to ask our state and federal legislators to act now to protect our world from the negative effects of climate change. When carbon pollution is free, there is too much of it. For too long, fossil fuel producers have been allowed to dump carbon pollution into our air without paying for any of the damage that it causes. Cash-back carbon pricing, also known as fee & dividend, puts a price on pollution and incentivizes conservation and innovation to replace fossil fuels with clean energy solutions. It does this by imposing a fee on fossil fuel producers. All the money collected, after administration costs, is placed in a dedicated trust fund, and rebated monthly to all NH residents on an equal basis. Two-thirds of all households will break even or get more in their equal share of the money collected than they pay in higher costs due to the fee. If eventually a federal bill replaces the state bill, it will use border adjustments to push our carbon price around the world.

Economists worldwide agree that this approach is the most cost-effective and fair way to keep carbon in the ground. It is a revenue-neutral method that uses the free market, not the government, to create innovative solutions for cleaner, renewable and cheaper energy sources. Cash-back carbon pricing is a bipartisan solution, it's effective at reducing climate pollution, protects family budgets, creates jobs, and has a global reach. Many other countries already use the fee and dividend approach. Canada adopted it just last year, and China is ready to start it this year.

Finally, this warrant does not commit Jackson or NH to any specific legislation but simply asks our state representatives to address this issue and use a carbon cash back solution to do it.

As of today, 36 New Hampshire towns are considering this. The towns that have met Monday and Tuesday night about 12 passed it so far, and two did not. And the rest are tonight or tomorrow. Moderator Kelley, is there any other questions. Holly Chase it is important for us as a town to stand up and make a statement on this, because obviously it’s something that affects us and our topography here in Jackson and will continue to affect future generations as well. It would be great is Jackson had a positive voice in that. Sarah Clemons, again we are talking about carbon footprint and sure we’re talking about the big industries that do it. But we have a carbon impact here in Jackson, we provide school transportation to all our students who are bussed for our kids to go to and from school. I have asked the school for how many students about that actually ride the bus. But I know that at Kennett High School there are over 200 parking spots for students to park their vehicles they take too and from school every day. Plus, parking at Shaw's. And I think this is a political statement. Dawson Winch I don’t think this goes far enough but I think it’s great. I want more. Anne Kantack, this is just an advisory it’s not binding?

Vote: Verbal Approval (unanimous)