

TOWN OF ROCKPORT  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2014  
ROCKPORT HIGH SCHOOL

The Special Town Meeting for the Town of Rockport, April 5, 2014 was called to order at 9:06AM. Grace Collins, RMS, lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Kiva Trumbour, RMS, superbly sang the National Anthem. Applause ensued.

MODERATOR: I'd like us to take a moment of silence this has been a really tough week in both world and local events. I'd like us to take a moment to think about the firefighters we lost this week and we have an honor brigade now coming forward; think about the soldiers we lost at Fort Hood and I'll ask for your prayers and thoughts for the Rockport gentleman who is lost at this time.

Reverend Susan Moran from the Unitarian Universalist Society of Rockport gave the invocation:

Blessed are all the extroverts who make sure that all the points are covered and blessed are the introverts who give those talkers an audience and who in the privacy of their own homes may yet come up with the best solutions. Blessed are the early risers for accomplishing so much before noon and blessed are the night owls so that the moon and the stars not play to an empty house.

Bless the fiscal conservatives, who understand that spending for preschools and after school programs save millions in prison and drug addiction treatment centers. Spirit of life and love and all we hold sacred enfold us in your graciousness. Keep our sense of humor. Keep us respectful even in the midst of disagreement. Keep us serene even in the midst of anxiety. Keep us mindful of our connectedness even in the midst of our differences. O Love, word among us and through us and dwell within us. May this meeting be filled with mutual regard, for growing knowledge and wisdom and understanding. We ask these things in all humility and gratitude. Blessed be and Amen.

Ruth Maassen, Poet Lauriat for the Town of Rockport:

Neighbor to Neighbor

Finally, we're sweeping winter sand off  
our sidewalks. Soon, we'll be sweeping  
summer sand off our kitchen floors.

We'll get our boats back in the water.  
We'll go barefoot across the sandy  
boards of the bridge to Long Beach.  
Kids with nets will be catching crabs.  
Little ones will run to the water's edge  
and back to their mothers with glee.  
Houseguests will alight and stay and stay.  
Beach towels will hang from the porch rails.  
Shouts and cheers will go up from Evans Field.

So many threads bind us together, those  
who serve up coffee at six in the morning,  
who plow the snowy streets all through the night,  
who boil the lobsters, who sell the fudge,  
who pick up the wind-torn twigs and branches,  
who wipe the counters, who fix oil burners,  
who bake the nisu, who battle Japanese knotweed,  
who brush white paint on their picket fences,  
who give out change for the parking meters,  
who when the call comes in give it everything they've got.

That's how neighbors are.  
That's how we are, in our  
quiet streets waiting for  
the faintest tinge of green  
to burst again into leaves.

MODERATOR: Now we will hear from Pat Brown our Town Clerk who will read the names of those citizens who served our town so well who passed on in 2013.

PATRICIA BROWN: We remember those who passed on in the year 2013:

Adelaide Lyons  
Babette Brackett  
David R. Harris  
Edward Alan Boulter  
Francis A. Bruni  
John E. Lane  
John M. Krenn  
Keva M. O'Neil  
Irene B. Anderson  
Paul F. Sargent  
Pauline E. Woodbury  
Raymond G. Smith  
Susan J. Thurson  
Pauline Tressilian

We are grateful for the years of faithful service they have given to the Town of Rockport.

MODERATOR: Thank you and now some introductions. To my right we have the Town Clerk, Pat Brown and the Assistant Town Clerk Linda Emerson; to my left we have Town Counsel Darren Klein and Town Administrator Linda Sanders and the Board of Selectmen over there on the right. Erin Battistelli the chairperson can introduce the rest of the board if she would like.

ERIN BATTISTELLI, Board of Selectmen: Yes, Vice Chairperson Paul Murphy, Sarah Wilkinson, Wilhelmina Sheedy and Eliza Lucas.

MODERATOR: And to my left the Finance Committee lead by Wally Hess who can introduce the rest of his committee.

WALLY HESS, Finance Committee: There is Bill Wagner down at the end, Michael Lamoureux, next June Michaels, Laurene Wessel, David Coyne and Carl Engel. Frank Hassler can't be with us today.

MODERATOR: Thank you. We have, of course, two meetings today; we have the special town meeting which will be followed immediately by the annual town meeting and we will at some point, maybe right between those meetings have a little stretch break which I'll explain later called a spark break. Non-voters are welcome to join us and that would include students. They have to be over there in the visitors section and they cannot participate in the meeting without special permission of the Chair and that would include making noise when it's time to vote, we'll need you to be silent at that point. If you are a registered voter do not sit up there because we won't hear from you or count your vote.

The Chair will entertain a motion to omit the reading of the articles in the warrant for the Special Town meeting.

Moved, second and carried by voice vote.

Town Clerk Patricia Brown read the Officer's Return.

MODERATOR: Thank you. I've introduced our town counsel; anyone who wants help in connection with goings on should feel free to quietly consult with him at sidebar. At times in the meeting there will be questions that will be directed to town counsel and I will be the one actually calling upon Darren to speak and I may not do it at the moment that question is posed because believe it or not even lawyers need time to think. This meeting will be conducted in accordance with Parliamentary Procedure as described in section 4 of chapter 2 of our town bylaws and you have all that in your booklet and if you're a voter you should have a voting card and if you've collected last year's voting card when you get the whole set you can bring it down to Shaw's and you get a case of soda. The subject of discussion today will be a pending motion and not the warrant article itself I will recognize the proponent that's usually going to be Linda Sanders who is going to read that motion and then she'll either read the reason for the motion or the proponent, he or she will read that and we may call upon a member of the appropriate

advisory committee to advise the town. If you wish to speak raise your voting card and I will either see you or our town clerks have tremendous vision and they will tell me that somebody is raising their hand and I'm going to try, as I always do, to make sure that everybody who wants to speak has the opportunity to speak. When you are recognized you can either come to the microphone here or there or we have two microphone attendant Roan Lampert and Sarah Visnick who will come to you if you have your hand raised and wait for them to get to you – state your name and at least the first time you speak, state your address and then address all your statements, comments and questions through the Chair and remember what we always talk about which is civility, no personal attacks, we're all friends and neighbors and we're just trying to do the right thing for the town though we may have different ideas for what that is. When I sense you are ready to vote I'll state the question and if at that point there's something you don't understand, ask at that point because debate has ended and then we will vote. Remember not to shout out – I move the question – that is something that you have to be recognized for and then we take a vote on it. As I always do because this is a business meeting with a very long agenda if you want to amend a main motion I would ask you to get that possible amendment to me several days before the meeting because often it requires different committee people to render opinions or town counsel to do some research and if we're all standing here or sitting here waiting because you've done it at the last moment it doesn't help move the agenda.

Remember we are guests of the school department today and I would remind you that smoking is not permitted anywhere on earth unless you are the Superintendent of Schools you are free to smoke a cigar while your dog does his business; also if you are wearing yoga pants or other types of attire like that, it is suggestive clothing, you'll have to go home and change. You don't want to distract the moderator and I'm very easily distracted.

If we need to have tellers I would ask that somebody come forward and volunteer to do that; just come around to the side and let Pat or Lindy know that you want to do that, again we have a gift for you that we'll disclose later if you want to do that and then we'll have the divisions and at the appropriate time we'll talk about that.

This morning I have determined that the following articles are related: The Special Town Meeting A through G talks about old money, um..no comments?; H through I talks about the town of bedrock, yabadaba do; J through K is talking about the Pigeon Cove seawall and L through N talks about the Granite Pier revetment and the tip of Granite Pier. The Annual Town Meeting, my understanding is there's no motion on G, H and J and I talks about free cash, which is something you parents of teenagers know about. We will handle that after we deal with other articles dealing with money we'll know at that point if we have any of that kind of money; 1-6 will go in order. Article M deals with the Police Chief who is here today but wants to get back to his staging area so we're going to handle that first when we get to the annual town meeting so that one will go out of order; 1-6 will then go in order; B through E talks about charities that will be related; K and L talk about the schools, N and O talks about Straitsmouth and S and T talks about reports.

We will complete this meeting today.

The Chair will entertain a motion under Article A:

ARTICLE A: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds sums of money to be expended by various Town Departments to balance the FY14 budget; or act on anything relative thereto.

LINDA SANDERS FOR MIKE LAMOUREUX: I move that the Town appropriate and transfer from the appropriations under Article 5 of the warrant for the April 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting such sums of money as are specified on page 24 of the April 5, 2014 Town Meeting Voter's Booklet with the exception of the sixth line item for Millpond Dam Temporary Principal in that the words Finance Committee Reserve Fund replace the words to be determined.

\$ 96,935.00	Snow & Ice Exp	01-406-0046-05292	Group Health Insurance	01-914-0096-05172
\$ 506.00	Publ Transport	01-212-0170-05279	Group Health Insurance	01-914-0096-05172
\$ 3,000.00	Rights of Way	01-173-0110-05786	Group Health Insurance	01-914-0096-05172
\$ 3,000.00	Animal Ctrl Svcs	01-292-0110-05200	Group Health Insurance	01-914-0096-05172
\$ 18,870.00	Bullet Proof Vests	<i>New Account</i>	Civilian Dispatcher	01-210-0067-05119

		<i>Number</i>	<i>Wgs</i>	
\$ 44,000.00 \$ 86,000.00	Millpond Dam Temp Principal	01-753-0143-05920	Group Health Insurance <i>To Be Determined</i>	01-914-0096-05172
\$ 12,000.00	Acctng Services	01-135-0110-05200	Accnt Supt Spec Wages	01-135-0061-05116
\$ 1,400.00	Property Ins	01-940-0146-05742	T/C Postage Expenses	01-147-0173-05310
\$ 5,472.81 \$ 22,000.00	Police Off Wages	01-210-0025-05112	Group Health Insurance Accnt Supt Spec Wages	01-914-0096-05172 01-135-0061-05116
\$ 1,000.00 \$ 605.00	Police Chief Sal	01-210-0020-05112	T/C Oper Asst Wages T/C Rental/Lease Exp	01-147-0041-05115 01-147-0113-05270
\$ 614.94	PD Office Mgr Sal	01-210-0040-05115	Group Health Insurance	01-914-0096-05172
\$ 2.00	Ambulance Dir	01-231-0020-05113	T/C Postage Expenses	01-147-0173-05310
\$ 55.80	Ambulance EMTs	01-231-0026-05122	T/C Postage Expenses	01-147-0173-05310
\$ 1,910.45	Parking Clerk	01-293-0020-05113	Group Health Insurance	01-914-0096-05172
\$ 25.00	Pkg Hearing Off	01-293-0019-05194	T/C Postage Expenses	01-147-0173-05310
\$ 41,168.00	Snow & Ice OT	01-404-0081-05130	Group Health Insurance	01-914-0096-05172

Moved and seconded.

MODERATOR: Any explanation or discussion? You've heard the motion. All those in favor say aye. Opposed say no.

The motion carries.

The Chair will entertain a motion under Article B.

ARTICLE B: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay unpaid bills and payroll of previous years; or act on anything relative thereto. (Town Account) (requires 9/10 vote)

LINDA SANDERS FOR MIKE LAMOUREUX: I move that the Town appropriate by transfer from the Group Health Insurance account the sum of \$360.53 to pay an invoice to School Specialty and the sum of \$175.00 to pay an invoice to Rooter Jack, both bills from the previous fiscal year as well as the sum of \$2,642.38 to pay stipend shortfalls for two DPW Commissioners from the previous fiscal year. (*requires 9/10 vote*)

Moved and seconded.

MODERATOR: Any explanation or discussion? This requires a nine-tenths vote so I'm going to ask to hear from anybody that is opposed. All right. All those in favor say aye. That passes by more than the requisite nine-tenths.

The motion carries by more than 9/10.

The Chair will entertain a motion under Article C.

ARTICLE C: To see if the Town will vote to close the Cemetery Water Lines Replacement Capital Improvements Account and appropriate by transfer the remaining unexpended funds to the Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund; or act on anything relative thereto. (Town Accountant)

LINDA SANDERS FOR DPW COMMISSIONER BRUCE REED: I move that the Town close the Cemetery Water Lines Replacement Capital Improvements account and appropriate by transfer the remaining unexpended funds of \$10,000 to the Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund.

Moved and seconded.

MODERATOR: Any discussion. All those in favor say aye. Opposed say no.

The motion carries.

The Chair will entertain a motion under Article D.

ARTICLE D: To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken on Article 6 at the April 6, 2002 Annual Town Meeting, which appropriated \$30,000 by borrowing to the Pigeon Hill Standpipe Painting Capital account, Article 6A at the April 4, 2009 Annual Town Meeting, which appropriated \$250,000 by borrowing to the Pigeon Hill Standpipe Painting Capital account, and Article 6A at the April 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, which appropriated \$250,000 by borrowing to the Pigeon Hill Water Tank Additional Funds Capital account, all for the payment of the costs of painting the Pigeon Hill standpipe to, instead, pay for the costs of replacing the Pigeon Hill standpipe, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and appropriate such amount to a Tank Replacement Engineering & Construction capital account; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR DPW COMMISSIONER BRUCE REED: I move that the Town amend the vote taken on Article 6 at the April 6, 2002 Annual Town Meeting, which appropriated \$30,000 by borrowing to the Pigeon Hill Standpipe Painting Capital account, Article 6A at the April 4, 2009 Annual Town Meeting, which appropriated \$250,000 by borrowing to the Pigeon Hill Standpipe Painting Capital account, and Article 6A at the April 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting, which appropriated \$250,000 by borrowing to the Pigeon Hill Water Tank Additional Funds Capital account, all for the payment of the costs of painting the Pigeon Hill standpipe to, instead, pay for the costs of replacing the Pigeon Hill standpipe, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto, and appropriate such amount to a Tank Replacement Engineering & Construction capital account.

Moved and seconded.

MODERATOR: Any discussion? All those in favor say aye. Opposed say no.

The motion carries.

The Chair will entertain a motion under Article E.

ARTICLE E: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer the unexpended funds from Article F of the September 14, 2009 Fall Town Meeting Purchase of Video Camera Capital account to the Infiltration/Inflows Special Revenue account; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR DPW COMMISSIONER BRUCE REED: I move that the Town appropriate and transfer the unexpended sum of \$8,706.41 from Article F of the September 14, 2009 Fall Town Meeting Purchase of Video Camera Capital account to the Infiltration/Inflows account.

Moved and seconded

MODERATOR: Any discussion? All those in favor say aye. Opposed say no.

The motion carries.

The Chair will entertain a motion under Article F.

ARTICLE F: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the unexpended money as were initially borrowed to finance capital projects that are now complete, and for which no further liability remains, of \$5,740.91 from the Odor Control Headworks capital account and the unexpended balance of \$1,474.97 from the Grit Removal capital account, both balances combined to total \$7,215.88 from Article 6B of the April 3, 2010 Annual Town Meeting, to the Dock Square Pump Station Odor Control Capital account established from Article 6B of the April 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting to pay costs of the Dock Square Pump Station Odor Control project, as permitted by Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR DPW COMMISSIONER BRUCE REED: I move that the Town appropriate and transfer the unexpended balance of \$5,740.91 from the Odor Control Headworks capital account and the unexpended balance of \$1,474.97 from the Grit Removal capital account for a total of \$7,215.88, both approved under Article 6B of the April 3, 2010 Annual Town

Meeting and initially borrowed to finance capital projects that are now complete, and for which no further liability remains, to the Dock Square Pump Station Odor Control Capital account established from Article 6B of the April 6, 2013 Annual Town Meeting for the purposes of Article F as set forth in the warrant and printed on page 22 of the 2014 Town Meeting Voters Booklet.

Moved and seconded.

MODERATOR: Any discussion? All those in favor say aye. Opposed say no.

The motion carries.

The Chair will entertain a motion under Article G.

ARTICLE G: To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article J of the September 11, 2006 Fall Town Meeting which appropriated funds for DPW Site Engineer/Architect to also include DPW facility design and construction; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR DPW COMMISSIONER BRUCE REED: I move that the Town amend the vote taken under Article J of the September 11, 2006 Fall Town Meeting which appropriated funds for the DPW Site Engineer/Architect, to also include DPW facility design and construction.

Moved and seconded.

MODERATOR: You have heard the motion. All those in favor say aye. Opposed no.

The motion carries.

The Chair will entertain a motion under Article H.

ARTICLE H: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant utility and access easements to National Grid and/or other utility providers for the placement and maintenance of power poles for the Bedrock Well power lines on portions of the Town-owned property located at 0 Main Street, 0 Pleasant Street, and 1-4 DPW Way and shown on Assessors Map 19 as Lots 49 and 91, and Map 13 as Lot 1; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR DPW COMMISSIONER BRUCE REED: I move that the Town transfer the care, custody and control of the parcels of land described below from the board or officer having custody thereof to said board or officer for such purposes and to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of granting easements thereon, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant utility and access easements to National Grid and/or other utility providers for the placement and maintenance of power poles for the Bedrock Well power lines on portions of the Town-owned property located at 0 Main Street, 0 Pleasant Street, and 1-4 DPW Way and shown on Assessors Map 19 as Lots 49 and 91, and Map 13 as Lot 1. (*requires 2/3 vote*)

Moved and seconded

MODERATOR: Any discussion?

FREDERICK TARR – 154 Main Street: This article in itself is relatively harmless but it leads I think the town to a very serious matter. The deep rock well proposed we have dug the deep rock well but the state has not approved it for public use. I think it's premature to spend a lot more money on things that have..cannot be used. We narrowly escaped a major override this year. We still have our tax rates and our water rates to go on. I think that this is something that is not needed at this time. I look at priorities. The priorities are Pigeon Cove Water Tank, which we have voted on. The priorities should be replacing the ancient water lines in this town you just saw one break a little while ago in front of T-Wharf. Priorities too are the low water pressure areas such as the top of Great Hill it's in danger of, especially if there's a fire up there and we can't get the water pressure to fight it. It is not a priority frankly to put a structure in the middle of the south woods on a well that the state after many years of consideration still will not let us use. It will not contribute a penny or a drop of water to our system whether or not we build this thing. It was up there to replace a water line from the south woods from Frank Street it was put in during a time of extreme drought and was certified and was used but has been neglected and

now is gone but to try to..that was needed at the time but turn of the century we had some major droughts. You might have remembered that Gloucester was sending pipelines from Fernwood Lake up to (inaudible) pond up in Manchester many of you remember the pipeline along 133 towards Essex that was to go to the Ipswich River those have gone away and we haven't used that South End pipeline in many, many years. We have improved our water supply by going to Steele Derrick which the trustees have granted us the water after swimming season, we have Little Parker, we have Flat Ledge, we have Big Parker – we have enough water. The (inaudible) of this deed so called was based on a build out study done in the last century and I think several since then showing the population of Rockport to be over 20,000 people. We don't have to provide at this time, water for over 20,000 people. Our population actually is dropping, our water consumption is way down and I think it is much better to spend our money on such things as the Pigeon Cove Water Tank as on pipes and so forth and so on. To put..give an easement across the Cape Pond that's fine and this pumping station might be fine at the time it's needed if and when the state approves its use. We have a water study going on now, it is not complete. I think I went to the Water Advisory, Ad Hoc Water Committee meeting the other night and again these questions are not answered. What are our water needs do we need this deep rock well it would be nice to have, it would be nice to a Rolls Royce but do we need it? Do we need it or do we need these other improvements water pressure, water mains and water tanks first? So I would reluctantly say please do not vote for this..a..amendment..this article because it's not needed at this time. At such time as we have the water studies done at such time as the water supply is the state says we can use it and as such time as we need it I think that is the time to spend this money and to give these rights of way. Until then I would ask you to vote no on this article. Thank you.

BRUCE REED: 32 Pigeon Hill Street – DPW Commissioner – just a few facts. The Town has been working on this well for over ten years and this body has voted on this several times along the way for funding and we're at the very end of this project. One thing is, I don't want to leave a hole in the ground out there with nothing being done with it so what we want to do is put the power in there so we can start using it, it will pump into Cape Pond. I'm not sure what else there is to say. This was started by a prior water study that said we should do this and it will be a permanent part of the town's water supply. Personally, I feel it's needed. Thank you.

FRANCES FLEMING: 12 Pleasant Street – I was wondering Mr. Reed what you have to say about Mr. Tarr's assertion that the state has not yet approved this project and what indeed if they have and we go ahead what it might cost the town?

BRUCE REED: The permitting process is ongoing and we're in the final stages of the permitting process right now with the state. We don't anticipate any issues at this point.

FRANCES FLEMING: The second part of the question is what is the cost to the town?

BRUCE REED: Of the permitting? Nothing

FRANCES FLEMING: The project. We've been hearing how we shouldn't be spending all this money but there's no reference to the cost of the project.

BRUCE REED: The project has essentially been paid for along the way. I think the next Article there is some more costs involved but the project has been paid and I don't have those numbers.

SIDNEY WEDMORE: 155 South Street – For clarification it seems like part of the problem, as I understand it, is the state has not yet permitted this and if we put that power line in does that facilitate and expedite that permit or does it still leave us hanging out there for several more years, in which case perhaps this should be deferred until a permit is in place.

JOE PARISI – DPW DIRECTOR: Let me give you a little history. The project has been funded in the past. The original appropriation was \$750,000 we moved forward with design, we moved forward with the permitting process. One of the things that it required was control of a 400' radius around the well head and that's been a difficult process it required getting an agreement from owners of that property within that area. We are now at the final stages of that, in fact we had an agreement that was signed but as it went through the process of approval with both EPA and DEP it was determined that there was different language that EPA wanted in the agreement so we had to go back to the owners, discuss those changes, we're now back in front, in fact I just got an email from Kopelman & Paige saying they've got the final language worked out, we're going back to the owners. It doesn't look like any problems with the language and so eminently going back to the EPA and then final sign-offs so we should be permitted within a couple weeks I would say and we are out to bit already this project is going forward. To put the brakes on now

makes no sense. This is a project, it's a deep rock well, it's a water source that is desirable because in times when water is in short supply or a drought condition the water supply situation can depend on a deep rock well. The Sawmill is a brook diversion. When there's dry weather we're not going to have water in that diversion. We're going to have to depend on going deeper in the ground to get to water we need and filling Cape Pond up to the levels where it should be to have good quality water. So this is an important project we're at the very final stages of it and the next Article you'll see is an appropriation for additional sums of money to bring power to the bedrock well pump station that was originally designed to go with a generator, a propane generator, a nice small one that would be appropriate for the area but do to some changes in air emission quality and regulations the generator became a larger one with a lot more expense added to it. I think looking at that we went back to the Conservation Commission to get approval for bringing poles and permanent power that I think was all agreed to be the better way to go so you'll see later on an Article for that but I think, hopefully that explains where we are with the project and I ask for your support.

JUNE MICHAELS: Finance Committee and Capital Outlay Committee – the cost of \$750,000 or \$900,000 with the \$150,000 in the next Article has to be compared to the alternative. It is raining, it has been raining there are some of us who feel that it may always be cold and raining and snowing but some of us who have lived in town longer remember that sometimes the sun shines and it's hot and dry and we get droughts. The bedrock wells were an alternative to the Flat Ledge dam and the cost of the Flat Ledge dam is now in excess of 3.5 million dollars so the town has voted repeatedly that developing wells would be a more economical alternative to increase the town's water supply. The problem with postponing permitting or any other project of this sort is that these projects take a long time and you have to keep moving forward with them because you never know which year will be the next drought year.

MEL MICHAELS: 22 Landmark Lane – She only stole half my thunder. The other part of this is that a few years ago when they came for permitting on the road that went through there, they were going to put, they were going to fuel the structure that was going on to power the well by putting in a building and trucking oil up for that. We were pretty much against it because they convinced us it was okay. We had suggested that putting power in at that time might be a better way to go. This is a much more environmentally sound way to go for the town. You've got a lot of pristine woods up there we don't want anything to happen to that and secondly as I remember Mr. Tarr at one point was the prime mover for this well and I don't quite understand why he has now, shall we say not demeaning, but has changed his tune because I really think that we've gone 95% of the way on this we really need to finish it. The money is there we can't let it languish and the water is there and we do need it.

FREDERICK TARR: A quick reply. Yes, I was. I'm always in favor of acquiring land or drilling experimental wells to see what resources we have, what resources we might want to depend on and go to in the future. We did drill several wells one of which, apparently is going to be possible but again it is not been approved for use. Now we've spent was said three-quarters of a million and they say that is a good reason to continue. Do we have a buggy whip factory that we spent a lot of money on and would we want to continue with that? I don't think we need either one of them and it's a question of getting as they say priorities a well that we cannot use and we don't know when we can and we don't need particularly because we haven't had to use that South End water resources either by pipeline or any other means for many, many years we have the quarries now, which I was in favor of, we have the connections the permanent no cost connection from Steele Derrick if we need it we pump from Millbrook well field into Cape Pond I've seen that water flowing so we have the Loop Pond we have the quarries we have many resources and we don't have 21,000 people now maybe a few people want to be able to build big lawns and water them but I don't think that's the reason why the rest of us should raise our water rate and raise our tax rates to pay for it. It's just that this is not the time for it. Yes money has been spent on design, money has been spent on drilling but there are a lot of things as time passes that frankly, get outdated and I think this is one of those things which is outdated possibly it would come back in the future in another 50 or 75 years but for the moment we don't need it and I don't want to spend the money on it. I'd much rather spend money we have on such things as the water tank and water mains and pressure relief. Thank you.

The Moderator recognizes Senator Bruce Tarr in the audience and thanks him for all his contributions to our town. (Applause)

CAMERON SMITH: 10 Rowe Point – It seems to me that the basic question here is what is the worst case scenario if, having to do with the need for water. We have one person, very qualified, who says that because the town is shrinking and not growing there is a negligible probability that

we would need this extra water and there are one or two other people who say the opposite that we need this because we could have a drought at any time. I certainly consider the money spent so far as a sunk cost, if you'll excuse the pun, and the real issue is the \$150,000 and I agree with Mr. Tarr that we can't afford to waste sums like that if indeed this would be a waste so I guess I consider this a question, Mr. Moderator, to perhaps a third party who is here who could give us a little bit.. opinion what is the probability of needing this extra water. Thank you.

SANDY JACQUES: 93 Granite Street – I move the question.

MODERATOR: That's debatable and that requires a two-thirds vote. We can't do anything else til we vote on that. So the question is whether we move the question right now. All those in favor please raise your voting card. All those opposed the same sign. That carries. So now we will hear the question, which is.

That the Town transfer the care, custody and control of the parcels of land described from the board or officer having custody thereof to said board or officer for such purposes and to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of granting easements thereon, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant utility and access easements to National Grid and/or other utility providers for the placement and maintenance of power poles for the Bedrock Well power lines on portions of the Town-owned property located at 0 Main Street, 0 Pleasant Street, and 1-4 DPW Way and shown on Assessors Map 19 as Lots 49 and 91, and Map 13 as Lot 1. This also requires a two-thirds vote.

All those in favor please raise those cards. All those opposed the same sign.

The motion carries by more than two-thirds.

The Chair will entertain a motion under Article I.

ARTICLE I: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds or borrow the sum of \$150,000 to a capital account to pay for the construction of the Bedrock Well Power Project, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (*requires 2/3 vote*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR DPW COMMISSIONER BRUCE REED: I move that the Town borrow the sum of \$150,000 and appropriate said sum to a Bedrock Well Power capital account for the purposes set forth in Article I in the warrant, and authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said sum and issue bonds and notes therefore under the provisions of G.L. c.44, §§7 and 8 or any other enabling authority, and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out these purchases.

Moved and seconded.

MODERATOR: Any further discussion on this?

ED HAND: 20 Landmark Lane – It seems to me that this question and I've tried to get the question in a prior motion, really comes down to what is causing us to not get the permits. If it's strictly a matter of this agreement on the land and not the quality of the water I think we would be foolish despite the fact that it's a sunk cost so far not to proceed ahead because four or five years down the Pike if we suddenly decide we do need the water there may be different requirements we'd have to go through with DEP other such things which could then cause additional delays and problems. So since we're this close I would suggest that it makes sense assuming there's no other reason why we're not going to get the permits, I'd like to hear the answer on that, not to move ahead.

JOE PARISI, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS: There are no obstacles in the way other than administrative work to get the permit approved. All the negotiations, the discussions with the landowner who had to give the town a conservation restriction on the land in other words prevent certain uses on their land so that it doesn't impact the well site have all been agreed to there's nothing further then going back to EPA getting the signatures and then everything back to DEP for final approval. I don't see any problems with that.

FREDERICK TARR: I won't go over everything that's been said already. (MODERATOR: Thank you) It's just that again it's a matter of priority. We are taxpayers of this town, we're all water rate payers here is something that's not approved it's based on out-of-date studies that have been done and it looks like we have plenty of water now we have plenty of water for drought situations as far as anybody can see. I would say wait until at least we get the water study back and a few other projections back then we can go ahead just because we spent some bad money already doesn't mean we have to spend good money after it. So I urge a defeat of this motion at this time. Thank you.

MODERATOR: You've heard and seen the motion. All those in favor please raise those cards. Thank you. All those opposed the same sign.

That motion carries by more than two-thirds.

The Chair will entertain a motion under Article J.

ARTICLE J: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds or borrow the sum of \$780,000 to a capital account to pay for the costs of storm damage repairs to the Pigeon Cove Seawall, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (*requires 2/3 vote*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR DPW COMMISSIONER BRUCE REED: I move that the Town borrow the sum of \$780,000 and appropriate said sum to a Pigeon Cove Seawall Repairs capital account and for the purpose set forth in Article K in the warrant, and authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said sum and issue bonds and notes therefore under the provisions of G.L. c.44, §§7 and 8 or any other enabling authority, and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out these purchases.

Moved and seconded.

MODERATOR: Thank you and that was Article J. Any comments, questions, observations? All right. You've heard the motion; this requires a 2/3rds vote, get out those voting cards. All those in favor please raise your card. Thank you. All those opposed the same sign.

That motion carries by more than two-thirds.

The Chair will entertain a motion under Article K.

ARTICLE K: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds or borrow the sum of \$1,660,000 to pay the costs of mitigation work on the Pigeon Cove Seawall including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (*requires 2/3 vote*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR DPW COMMISSIONER BRUCE REED: I move that the Town borrow the sum of \$1,660,000 and appropriate said sum to a Pigeon Cove Mitigation capital account and for the purpose set forth in Article K in the warrant, and authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said sum and issue bonds and notes therefore under the provisions of G.L. c.44, §§7 and 8 or any other enabling authority, and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out these purchases. (*requires 2/3 vote*)

Moved and seconded.

MODERATOR: You've heard the motion. Any discussion? Also requires a two-thirds vote. Get out those voting cards. All those in favor please raise your card. Thank you. All those opposed the same sign.

That motion carries by two-thirds.

The Chair will entertain a motion under Article L

ARTICLE L: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds or borrow the sum of \$150,000 to pay the costs of storm damage repairs to the Granite Pier Revetment, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (*requires 2/3 vote*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR DPW COMMISSIONER BRUCE REED: I move that the Town borrow the sum of \$150,000 and appropriate said sum to a Granite Pier Revetment Repairs capital account and for the purpose set forth in Article L in the warrant, and authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow said sum and issue bonds and

notes therefore under the provisions of G.L. c.44, §§7 and 8 or any other enabling authority, and that the Board of Selectmen is authorized to take any other action necessary or convenient to carry out these purchases.

Moved and seconded

TOBY ARSENIAN: I've lived just north of Granite Pier for 45 years, not 20 years ago, not 40 years ago there was no revetment out there. Will someone tell us when we started to have revetment as opposed to what was there to begin with, what was there from the beginning when it was constructed which was plain rubble construction, grout dumped off the edge. It stood all these many years since I believe the 1850s or 1860s just the bulk of it. I'm not convinced that the revetment is an improvement, obviously I'm not an expert on coastal fortifications but looking at what was done with the riprap at Back Beach I knew watching that go forward that the results would not be good and it didn't last six months. So I begin to trust my ignorance as opposed to the opinions of the experts. Will someone please explain why the revetment is better than simple rubble construction which would certainly be cheaper and tell us when we started to do the revetment?

MODERATOR: I've got to admit I had to look up what a revetment was, but now I know.

JOE PARISI, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS: The Granite Pier construction is pretty much what you see there it is stones that are put together on a slope down to the ocean. It is not going to be anything different than what you see; I mean the stones will be locked in. You have to put a, place them in a way that they do tend to stay together when hit by storm surge. I don't know, Toby that there's really much of a difference. You certainly won't see much of a difference but you can't just back the truck up and dump a pile of stones off the side and just let them slope. You've got to get a machine in there, you've got to place them, you've got to work it and so that's pretty much it. I don't think they'll be anything different than what you see. The term revetment could stand for something a little bit more fancier but that's not the case here other than you've got to place some stones and try to lock them in and get the whole thing sound.

MODERATOR: So revetment equals a pile of stones that's \$150,000 or more. Is that a good definition?

MEL MICHAELS: I'm just wondering if there's a way we can get a longer warranty from these construction companies. As Toby alluded to on Back Beach it was gone pretty quickly I think we had a one year warranty on that, I could be wrong and they came and they did some repair but it's in pretty bad shape again as far as I'm concerned. So the question is can we get a longer warranty even if we have to pay for it on some of this work they're trying to save us some money in the future.

MODERATOR: All right you have heard and seen the motion. (Audience noise) Op, you want answers..

BRUCE REED: I think the answer is maybe. I think it would cost us more to get a guarantee that that something would stand up. Let's not forget, we're sitting here facing the northeast and the storms are definitely getting a lot worse. We're really at the tip of some really bad weather. Not long ago I was looking at a report that was done by town and I was fascinated to see that, and this report went back to the 60s, and in 1960 there was what they would call one large storm that did damage to the town, in the 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s that's sort of the way it went but when you get to the 2000s it's happening yearly now. So we're looking at fortifying the Town of Rockport against storms and you know if we can get some guarantees from contractors or builders we'll do it but we're looking at a lot of different methods to really fortify the Town of Rockport. If you think about it look up and down the east coast, Sandy was the, kind of the lynch pin, of what a lot of what's going on with the federal money coming in to do litigation, not litigation but mitigation work and that's all about fortifying towns and we're looking at that, to try and make this town stay as it is today for as long as we can possibly keep it this way. I don't know if this answered your question Mel but...

MODERATOR: Before Senator Tarr leaves maybe we could ask him if the legislature could have less storms come the way of the town in the future. Can you see if you can do that?

TOBY ARSENIAN: I went to a DPW Commissioner's meeting to ask about this article and also to make unkind remarks about the Back Beach riprap construction and I was told that the revetment would only be used to repair the areas that have been scooped out by the recent storms

we're not going to embroider revetment the full length of the outside of Granite Pier. Which leads you to a question what about the edges of it, it's all supposed to tie in as Joe Parisi said. Well a chain is only as good as the weakest link so I'm not convinced that the revetment is any better and what is out there now has stood by just the bulk of it for far longer than any of us have been around here. The Town of Rockport has any amount of grout in back of Carlson quarry obviously the DPW can't do that sort of a job in-house but the materials are there and we're going to pay a premium to have granite imported from somewhere else for something that may not be better than the simple construction that was there before. I know that people are very eager to get the three-quarters match from the federal government – that's money that grows on trees in Washington, always popular but do remember about the money that grows on trees in Washington that that comes out of your pockets and mine. That's tax money too. Just as surely as anything that we raise and appropriate here today.

JOE PARISI: I guess I would add that the sum of money that's being appropriated here or asked to be appropriated here does represent the..what we believe 75% of federal match for the project. This was a number that was estimated by FEMA as to what the cost of the project would be. It doesn't mean that that will be the cost. We certainly hope that we can utilize stone that's available to us locally here, we're looking into that. The problem being is we need stones of sufficient size so that they would stay in place. Sometimes that's not always, we're not always able to get that in the quantities that we need but we're certainly looking into it we'll certainly do whatever we can to minimize, you know the cost of the project both for our local share and the federal share.

SYDNEY WEDMORE: I still haven't heard an answer to Mel Michael's question. In an age of accepting the cheapest bid that does not necessarily insure the best workmanship. What will we do differently to insure that we get the best workmanship with at least some longevity to the project?

JOE PARISI: Well I guess it all depends on what you need to design to prevent further damage from future storms. It's hard to say what, you know, what future storms will be in their severity but I think the federal government realizes that money needs to be spent above and beyond just repairing what you had before 'cause it doesn't appear to be good enough anymore that's the mitigation piece of the federal government funding that we see here we see it for a couple of our projects. We see it for the Pigeon Cove project. We see it for Back Beach, which is another article coming up shortly. We have a repair that recently happened that was due to a storm that happened in 2007. The engineering effort that went behind there put together a plan that put it back to what it was. We didn't have any mitigation money at that time for that project. We had to repair that particular revetment to the materials we had before we couldn't bring in bigger stones we had to use stone we had. We had you know certainly a large storm that caused further damage and you know we're not happy about that but we really aren't in a position to pin it on you know the contractor for doing shoddy for a design that wasn't appropriate. I mean the design was pretty much putting it back to what it was and this particular article coming up on the Back Beach you'll see that there's mitigation funds there and we hope to be able to build it bigger and better not necessarily bigger but better than before so that it will withstand future storms.

JOANNE WILE – 6 Highland Street – I think that any money that is spent on projects that are on the ocean is money well spent. This is only, I'm saying only, \$150,000 when we had storm damages in the millions. I have observed the ocean creeping closer and closer to us and I think that anything that has to do with the wharves, the piers, breakwaters is money well spent. They talk about hundred year old storms all the time. We seem to be having that type of thing about every two or three years. That phrase hundred year old storm is a lot of bunk. So I think that this is money well spent and we should do it.

CHARLES PETERMAN – 22 Pleasant Street – A very simple question for the DPW with regards to this plan I think it would go a great deal further to give us assurance of the quality of the work if we knew whether the plan had been vetted by either the Army Corp of Engineers or the FEMA Coastal Management Group. A simple yes or no answer will be sufficient.

BRUCE REED: FEMA yes, Army Corp. no. It's not an Army Corp. project. Rockport Harbor, the inner breakwater off of Bearskin Neck would be the Army Corp. of Engineers.

MODERATOR: You've heard and seen the motion. This requires a two-thirds vote so raise your voter's card if you're in favor; please do so now. Thank you. All those opposed the same sign.

The motion carries by more than two-thirds.

The Chair will entertain a motion under Article M

ARTICLE M: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of \$112,500.25 to cover the FEMA deficit from the Granite Pier Revetment project; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Town Accountant*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR DPW COMMISSIONER BRUCE REED: I move that the Town appropriate by transfer the sum of \$112,500.25 from the Group Health Insurance account to cover an FY2014 deficit balance in the account due to lack of anticipated FEMA reimbursement for the Granite Pier Revetment project.

Moved and seconded.

TOBY ARSENIAN: I won't bore you, all of the previous remarks that I made may apply to this as well.

MODERATOR: You've heard and seen the motion. All those in favor say aye. Opposed say no.

The motion carries.

The Chair will entertain a motion under Article N.

ARTICLE N: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate by transfer from available funds the sum of \$8,338.71 to cover the FEMA deficit from the Granite Pier Tip project; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Town Accountant*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR DPW COMMISSIONER BRUCE REED: Is making a lot of motions today. He moves that the Town appropriate by transfer the sum of \$8,338.71 from the Group Health Insurance account to cover an FY2014 deficit balance in the account due to lack of anticipated FEMA reimbursement for the Granite Pier Tip project.

Moved and seconded

MODERATOR: Mr. Reed you are on rocky ground today. Any questions or comments?

CHARLES PETERMAN: What deficit and coverage does this imply for those covered by the existing group health insurance plan? Are there any changes in benefits that are going to happen due to this reallocation of funds?

MODERATOR: Could you state that again, we didn't hear it up front.

CHARLES PETERMAN: Certainly, by transferring this balance out of the group health insurance account is there any change in benefits to the current beneficiaries in that health account?

LINDA SANDERS: No there is not. There were some contingency funds, there always are in the health insurance account in case there are additional people taking insurance that weren't in the employ at the time that we projected the budget last year and so there was some left over to transfer that wasn't needed and could transfer to cover these other costs. It has nothing to do with the plan or the coverage.

MODERATOR: You've heard the motion. All those in favor say aye. Opposed say no.

The motion carries.

The Town Clerk is going to preside over Articles O and P.

ARTICLE O: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, appropriate by transfer from available funds or borrow the sum of \$87,000 to pay the costs of storm damage repairs and mitigation to the Back Beach Seawall, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*) (*requires 2/3 vote*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR DPW COMMISSIONER BRUCE REED: I move that the Town appropriate and transfer from Free Cash the amount of \$87,000 to a Back Beach Seawall Repairs and Mitigation capital account for the purpose set forth in Article O in the warrant.

Moved and seconded.

TOWN CLERK: Any discussion?

TOBY ARSENIAN: Walking back and forth to town while Miller Golf the contractors constructed the riprap, it's merely riprap it's not so elegant as revetment, I could see that the whole affair was going to end badly. They put smaller stones like marbles underneath the great large ones and it lasted less than six months and a third maybe, certainly a quarter of it collapsed. Looking at it it's very difficult to see where the stuffing went, if you want to call it stuffing, I'm not sure that that would be correct, where it has collapsed and now, you know we're going to have to pay all over again for a second time in the course of three years. I don't know that you can decline to pay for it because the street is right in back of it. I don't know how often we're expected to pay for these repairs. It doesn't look like an encouraging future.

TOWN CLERK: Any other discussion?

CHARLES PETERMAN: Will the same firm that was employed the first time to provide the repairs be employed the second time?

BRUCE REED: Just a couple things and I will answer the question. One of the things going on down at Back Beach we have mitigation money that means we can redesign and change shapes and do things a little bit differently down there, so that's part of what this project is. The last time around we had to rebuild I think the term is in-kind. In other words just rebuild it as it was so we have some opportunities down there to get a new designer in place and reengineer it and hopefully it will last a long time. We're going to go out to bid on this project obviously and I'm not going to sit here and say we're experts in the bidding law, or I'm not an expert in the bidding law but my guess is we'll have different contractors on this next project.

TOWN CLERK: Any other discussion. I sense you're ready to vote. All those in favor please raise your placard. All those opposed the same sign.

The motion carries.

The Chair will entertain a motion under Article P.

ARTICLE P: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant an access and sewer easement to George Ramsden in, on and under Town-owned property shown on Assessors Map 13 as Lot 1 and approximately shown on an easement plan entitled "176 Main Street, Plan of Proposed Sewer and Access Easement" dated February 14, 2014, which plan is on file with the Town Clerk; or act on anything relative thereto. (*Department of Public Works*)

LINDA SANDERS FOR DPW COMMISSIONER BRUCE REED: I move that the Town transfer the care, custody and control of the parcel of land described below from the board or officer having custody thereof to said board or officer for such purposes and to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of granting an easement thereon, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to grant an access and sewer easement to George Ramsden in, on and under Town-owned property shown on Assessors Map 13 as Lot 1 and approximately shown on an easement plan entitled "176 Main Street, Plan of Proposed Sewer and Access Easement" dated February 14, 2014, which plan is on file with the Town Clerk and can be found on page 30 of the Voters Booklet.

TOWN CLERK: That's moved and seconded and that would be on page 34 of the Voter's Booklet. Any discussion?

All those in favor please raise your placards. All those opposed the same sign.

The motion carries. I would say that's unanimous.

MODERATOR: First of all, a round of applause for the Town Clerk who did such a great job. I didn't even have time to finish my animal crackers but there are animal crackers and other

wonderful goodies for sale down in the cafeteria and complimentary coffee which is delicious and hot.

The Chair will entertain a motion to dissolve the Special Town Meeting. Moved and seconded. Any discussion? All those in favor say aye. Opposed say no.

The motion carries – the Special Town Meeting dissolved at 10:27AM.

We now move on to the Annual Town Meeting.

