

**West Ossipee Fire Precinct  
Jewell Hill Fire Station, West Ossipee  
2024 Annual Meeting  
March 16, 2024**

**Commissioners:** Greg Howard, Tara Parent  
**Moderator:** Robert Pustell  
**Recorded by:** DorisAnn Allenson- Clerk  
Gregory Howard- Commissioner

Moderator Pustell called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM.

**Article I:**

*To elect all necessary precinct officers for the ensuing year as follows: to choose one Commissioner for a term of three (3) years; one Clerk for a term of one (1) year; one Treasurer for a term of one (1) year; and a Moderator for a term of one (1) year.*

Commissioner Howard suggested moving Article I to the end of the meeting.

**Motion:** by Commissioner Howard, seconded by Jessica Colpoys, to move Article 1 to after Article IV. All in favor, motion passed.

**Article II:**

*To see if the precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred and Nineteen Thousand and Five Hundred and Sixty-Two dollars (\$419,562.00) for general precinct operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. (Majority vote required)*

Executive	\$13,450.00
Financial Administration	\$6,100.00
Legal	\$1,000.00
Government Buildings	\$47,396.00
Insurance	\$25,500.00
Fire	\$325,516.00
Street Lighting	\$600.00

*Each item was then presented individually by Moderator Pustell. Questions asked regarding the individual line items.*

Commissioner Howard and Chief Huddleston provided background and specifics on the Fire line item. Including the purchase of the Aerial Apparatus from the Sayville NY Fire Department this past year. Commissioner Howard noted that the overall Budget for the Precinct including all the Warrant Articles represented a 10.1% increase over 2023.

**Motion:** by Greg Scholand, seconded by Amber Oakes, to accept Article II as written. All in favor, motion passed.

**Article III:**

*To see if the precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand (\$50,000.00) for the Fire Department Firefighting and Rescue Equipment and Vehicles Capital Reserve Fund as previously established for the purpose of purchasing and maintaining vehicles and other firefighting and rescue equipment. (Majority vote required)*

Commissioner Howard noted that the Capital Reserve Fund was utilized along with unassigned funds to purchase the Aerial Apparatus and that the Precinct apparatus were currently in good condition. Chief Huddleston noted that the Capital Reserve Fund several years ago was raised from \$20,000 to \$50,000 due to the increased cost of firefighting equipment. Continued funding of the Capital Reserve Fund is important to lessen the impact for future needed expenditures.

**Motion:** by Greg Scholand, seconded by Nick Annania, to accept Article III as written. All in favor, motion passed.

**Article IV:**

*To see if the precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty-Six Thousand and Six Hundred and Seventy-Eight (\$56,678.00) for the first Annual payment of a three-year lease/purchase agreement in the amount of \$150,000 payable over a term of three (3) years for an Aerial Apparatus. This lease/purchase contains an escape clause. (Majority vote required)*

Commissioner Howard and Chief Huddleston presented how the Fire Precinct was able to purchase the Aerial Apparatus from the Sayville NY Fire Department at a substantial discount. The Fire Precinct was able to make the down payment and subsequent purchase through the ability to transfer \$50,000 in unassigned funds to the Capital Reserve Account within the 10-day window following the 2023 Annual Meeting along with securing a 3-year lease/purchase that contained an escape clause as required by the NH Department of Revenue Administration. Due to the escape clause in the lease/purchase agreement the Precinct has to vote to approve annually making the annual lease/purchase payment.

**Motion:** by Greg Scholand, seconded by Nick Annania, to accept Article IV as written. All in favor, motion passed.

**Moderator Pustell referred back to Article I**

**Article I:**

*To elect all necessary precinct officers for the ensuing year as follows: to choose one Commissioner for a term of three (3) years; one Clerk for a term of one (1) year; one Treasurer for a term of one (1) year; and a Moderator for a term of one (1) year.*

Commissioner Howard's term is ending and not seeking re-election. Commissioner Howard expressed his satisfaction in what has been accomplished during his tenure. He expressed his thanks to the Chief Huddleston and the Fire Department members in how professional they conduct their responsibilities. The Precinct residents are well served by the Department and should be proud of the service they provide. Precinct residents and Department members expressed they're thanks to Commissioner Howard for his service.

One Commissioner for a term of three (3) years

Jerry Ludwig is willing to serve a 3-year term.

**Motion:** by Robert Pustell, seconded by Ann Cady, to nominate Jerry Ludwig. All in favor, motion passed.

One Clerk for a term of one (1) year

DorisAnn Allenson is willing to continue to serve

Moderator for a term of one (1) year

Robert Pustell is willing to continue to serve

Treasurer for a term of one (1) year  
Terri Fraser-Hooper is willing to continue to serve

**Motion:** by Greg Scholand, seconded by Gail Howard, that the Clerk cast a single ballot for the offices of Clerk, Moderator and Treasurer. All in favor, motion passed.

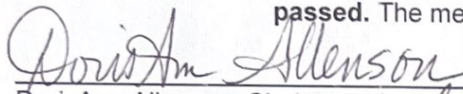
**Article V:**

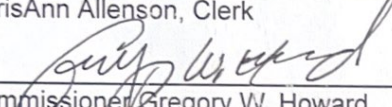
*To transact any other business which may legally come before the meeting.*

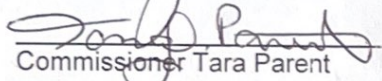
Chief Huddleston wanted to recognize Commissioner Howard's 14-years of service to the Precinct with the presentation of a plaque from the Fire Department.

**Adjournment**

**Motion:** by Ann Cady, seconded by Greg Howard, to adjourn. **All in favor, motion passed.** The meeting adjourned at 10:58 AM.

 3/26/2024  
DorisAnn Allenson, Clerk

 3/18/2024  
Commissioner Gregory W. Howard

 3/18/2024  
Commissioner Tara Parent