The polls were open at the Henniker Community School Gymnasium
51 Western Avenue, Henniker on Tuesday, March 8, 2016
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:
* Asterisk indicates person(s) elected

Selectmen-3 year term
Leo Aucoin 224
Jeffrey S. Connor 186
Benjamin Fortner 246*

Trustees of the Tucker Free Library - 3 year term
Emily O’Rourke 565*

Selectmen-3 year term
Ronald C. Taylor 563*

Cogswell Spring Water Works Water Commissioner-3 year term
William R. Hall, Jr. 546*

Cemetery Trustee-3 year term
Tim McComish 563*

Supervisor of the Checklist-6 year term
Lori (Loretta) Marko 569*

Trustees of the Trust Funds-3 year term
Linda C. Connor 590*

Moderator-2 year term
Wayne Colby 581*

Planning Board- 3 year term
Dean B. Tirrell 469*
Jonathan Lapointe 400*

2) Are you in favor of amending Chapter 133, Zoning Regulations, Article X Lot Size Regulations, Section 133-40 Lot Size Table by reducing the Minimum Frontage requirement in the RV Village Proper District from 125 feet to 100 feet, as proposed by the Planning Board?

Amendment Purpose: 26% of the existing lots within the RV Zone are non-conforming as to frontage requirements. By reducing the frontage to 100 feet 54 of the 87 non conforming properties will become conforming.
Planning Board recommends.

YES 415 NO 207
3) Are you in favor of amending Chapter 133, Zoning Regulations, Article V RV Village Proper District and Article VIII 133-32 CV Village Commerce District by allowing Housing for Older Persons projects for households occupied solely by those 55 years or older, allowed density is up to 11 units per acre, minimum lot area will be 1 acre, 30% minimum open space will be required, a minimum of 75 feet of frontage required, housing units may be single family, two family or multi-family buildings with a maximum of two bedrooms in each unit and the project must be developed in a manner that is in keeping with community character, as proposed by the Planning Board?

Amendment Purpose: This amendment was recommended in the Master Plan and will provide opportunities for the construction of senior housing in downtown locations. Providing housing options for our aging population is an important goal in the community and will create a positive tax base in the community.

Planning Board recommends. YES 451 NO 176

4) Are you in favor of amending Chapter 133, Zoning Regulations, amending Article IV General Provisions, by adding the following, as proposed by the Planning Board?

Section 133-20A Conditional Use Permits: Agritourism Uses

Subject to the provisions of RSA 674:21, the Planning Board is hereby authorized to issue Conditional Use Permits for Agritourism uses on Agriculture lands subject to the process and criteria in this Section. A. Agriculture, as defined by State Statute, is a permitted use in every Zoning District. Agritourism uses use may be permitted based upon the following:

1. Purpose and Intent

   As Agritourism uses may have the potential to generate increased impacts that did not previously exist, it is in the community’s interest to ensure that any Agritourism use permitted is appropriate for the sites on which they are located.

2. Agritourism Uses

   a. A Conditional Use Permit may be issued to allow an Agritourism use under the following provisions as well as those outlined in Chapter 203 Site Plan Review Regulations:

      1. That public safety is protected;
      2. That neighborhood character is considered;
      3. That substantial negative impacts to the neighbor are avoided; and
      4. That the quality of environmental resources are protected.

   b. The Planning Board may impose such conditions of approval as it finds reasonably appropriate and necessary to meet the spirit and intent of this Ordinance.

Amend Chapter 133, Article II Definitions by adding the following:

Agritourism: Attracting visitors to a working farm for one or more of the following purposes that are ancillary and Accessory to the principle Agriculture operation:

   a. Overnight stays in the principle dwelling on the farm or in a barn or other building that is used in the operation of the farm, not to exceed a total of 8 (eight) guests per night;
   b. Serving meals to overnight guests;
   c. Active participation in the operations of a farm;
d. Education, tours, demonstrations, exhibits, and sales if such activities are directly related to the farm or its operations;

e. Recreational activities that make use of the farm’s products, equipment, or animals such as hayrides, sleigh rides, or mazes, etc. and

f. Gatherings, functions, celebrations, and meetings greater than 25 participants.

**Amendment Purpose:** This proposed amendment will allow agritourism activities as accessory uses on farms supporting the community’s farm base and helping maintain the town’s rural character. Provisions are included in the amendment to oversee potential impacts to abutters.

Planning Board recommends.

YES 364 NO 256

5) Are you in favor of the adoption of the following Zoning Ordinance amendment proposed by petition of the voters of Henniker as follows:

**ARTICLE II – DEFINITIONS, CHAPTER 133-3 – TERMS DEFINED, AGRICULTURE**

The definition of ‘Agriculture’ in the Henniker Zoning Ordinances is lacking, and does not incorporate many of the current elements of farming and agriculture, including the concept of Agritourism. For this reason, we the undersigned, duly registered voters of the Town of Henniker, do:

Petition the Selectmen of the Town of Henniker, to place a warrant article on the March 2016 town ballot to add to the Henniker Zoning Ordinance Article II Definitions, 133-3 Terms Defined, ‘Agriculture,’ in the manner set forth below.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as presented by petition for the Henniker Zoning Ordinance as follows?

No. 1: Amend Article II Definitions, Chapter 133-3 Terms Defined, by amending the following definition:

**Agriculture** – Agriculture and farming shall mean and refer to all operations of a farm including, but not limited to: the terms ‘farm,’ ‘agriculture,’ ‘farming,’ roadside farm stands, farmer’s markets, orchards, nurseries, tree farms, Christmas tree farms, dairy farms, livestock, poultry, maple syrup operations, and all other commercial agricultural activities on a farm that are intended or designed to attract visitors to a working farm, which includes agritourism uses as set forth in RSA 21:34-a (VI).

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as presented by petition for the Henniker Zoning Ordinance as follows?

No. 2: Amend Article II Definitions, Chapter 133-3 Terms Defined, by adding the following definition:

**Agritourism** – ‘Agritourism’ includes the definition set forth in NH RSA 21:34-a (VI), and shall specifically include, but not be limited to, farm-to-table events, overnight stays, corn mazes, agricultural-based educational activities, fairs, on-farm weddings and similar events, hay rides, petting zoos, pick-your-own produce operations, agriculture tours, nature walks, outdoor sporting activities, snowmobile, ATV trails, bike trails, hiking, snowshoeing, x-country skiing, horse trails, camping, bird watching,
historical and agricultural exhibits and museums, as well as other commercial agricultural activities on farms that are intended or designed to attract visitors to a working farm.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as presented by petition for the Henniker Zoning Ordinance as follows?

No. 3: Amend Article II Definitions, Chapter 133-3 Terms Defined, by adding the following definition/title:

Add ‘Agriculture’ as defined, which includes ‘Agritourism’ as defined, and amend the title “Agriculture” to read “Farm, Agriculture, Farming, Agritourism.” Home Farming is allowed in all zones.

Planning Board does not recommend.

YES 368 NO 283
(680 of the 3487 registered voters in Henniker voted – 20%)

The meeting reconvened at the Henniker Community School Cafetorium
on Saturday, March 12, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

The Moderator, Wayne Colby, opened the annual Henniker Town meeting with the introduction of two 7th graders who spoke about the fundraiser being held for their 8th grade trip to DC and what food/drink were available to purchase. The results of the one contested race for Selectmen were announced with Ben Fortner as the winner; as well as the write-in for Henniker School Board, Jim McElroy and the write-in for Henniker School Clerk, Liz Brennan as well as mentioning that all the zoning questions passed. The head table with the Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk, Selectmen, Town Administrator and Finance Director were introduced.

Freedom and democracy comes with a cost the Moderator continued with, and he asked that any Veteran from WW II war, Korean war, Vietnam war, Gulf war, Iraq war and Afghanistan war to please stand up. A round of applause was given by all in attendance. Moderator Colby thanked the Veterans and asked them to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator Colby gave a brief review of his role as the Moderator, which is to make sure that we have a legal and orderly meeting. He asked that 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. All discussion and comments will be directed to the Moderator. A ballot vote may be requested in writing by 5 voters in attendance before any type of vote has been taken.

Kris Blomback, Chairman of the Selectmen, welcomed all to the annual gathering, the ultimate place to decide the fate of our operating budget. He said that the process is open for all to participate in and every meeting has been well publicized. A welcome was given to the new Selectmen, Ben Fortner and a big thank you was given to Leo Aucoin, who fought to keep taxes down on a daily basis as a Selectmen for two terms. You always knew where he stood, but what spoke louder were the countless hours of time and equipment that he quietly donated to the Town. A certificate of appreciation was presented to Leo on behalf of the Board and community of Henniker to thank him for his service. Employees that left the Town of Henniker employment were recognized as well as the new employees of the Town.

A brief update was given on the overall successful rebuilding of the highway garage, with a huge thank you to both the Equipment and the Building Committee. An overview of the increases in
the operating budget as well as the restablishment of the important capital reserve was given. The last three big projects came in under budget; government spending and under budget are not always two terms that belong in the same sentence. There are many seen and unseen future challenges. We as a Board are capable and flexible to deal with all the challenges coming down the road, we don’t agree on everything and getting everyone to agree is indeed impossible, but we are good listeners and we’ll always tell you the truth.

Selectmen Robert French welcomed everyone to the 2016 Henniker Town Meeting and remarked how nice it was to see everyone. He went on the thank all those who were involved in re-building of the Town Highway garage. He said that he was in awe of all the support that came from the citizens of Henniker and surrounding towns and that he couldn’t thank everyone enough for that outpouring of support.

Selectmen French again thanked Selectmen Aucoin for his years of service and contributions to the Town of Henniker. He than asked everyone to join him in a moment of silence to honor the family and friends that we lost this past year.

6) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Million Nine Hundred Twenty Four Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Four Dollars ($4,924,724) for general municipal operations.

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COMMUNITY BUDGET  58,366    58,366    0
DEBT SERVICE – PRINCIPAL  280,744  57,000  223,744
DEBT SERVICE – INTEREST  50,361    9,149  41,212
DEBT SERVICE – TAN INT  12,000    10,000  2,000

Total  4,924,724  4,451,794  472,930

7) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Seventeen Thousand Four Hundred Forty Dollars ($217,440) for the Tucker Free Library with the amount to be raised from current year taxation.  

Selectmen recommend

8) **VOTED** to establish a Tucker Free Library Roof Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of replacing the roof at the Tucker Free Library, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000) to be placed in this fund, and to designate the Library Trustees as agents to expend.  

Selectmen recommend

9) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of up to One Hundred Fifty Eight Thousand Two Hundred Seventy One Dollars ($158,271) 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 December 31, 2021.  

Selectmen recommend

10) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Eight Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars ($58,250) 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 $7,500 will be transferred if received from the Town of Bradford. If the money is not received from Bradford only $50,750 will be transferred.  

Selectmen recommend

11) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars ($260,000) to purchase an ambulance. Further to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to expend the $260,000 from 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.  

Selectmen recommend

MOTION made to restrict reconsideration of Articles 6 through 11 in accordance with RSA 40:15, paragraphs 1 and 5.  

MOTION PASSED

12) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars ($10,000) to be added to the Bridge Repair Capital Reserve Fund established at the 2008 Town Meeting under the provisions of RSA 35:1.  

Selectmen recommend

13) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars ($20,000) to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund established at the 2007 Town Meeting under the provisions of RSA35:1  

Selectmen recommend
Presentation was made by Steve Burritt to Steve Connor in recognition of his 55 years of service with the fire department. Steve Connor also has served as the deputy forest fire warden for 43 years, a role that he is stepping down from this year.

14) **VOTED** to establish a Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of the replacement of Henniker Fire Department trucks and equipment and to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars ($100,000) to be placed in this fund.  
   **Selectmen recommend**

15) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Sixty Six Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Four Dollars ($566,684) for the operating expenses of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This funding is provided by sewer assessments.  
   **Sewer Commissioners recommend Selectmen recommend**

16) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Forty One Thousand Six Hundred Thirty One Dollars ($441,631) for the operating expenses of Cogswell Spring Water Works. This funding is provided by water assessments.  
   **Water Commissioners recommend Selectmen recommend**

   **MOTION** made to restrict reconsideration of Articles 12 through 16 in accordance with RSA 40:15, paragraphs 1 and 5.  
   **MOTION PASSED**

17) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Five Hundred Dollars ($6,500) for the purpose of painting/repairing exterior wood damage at the Grange and withdraw Six Thousand Five Hundred ($6,500) from the Proctor Family Trust. For this purpose, the total to be raised is $6500.00.  
   **Requires a 2/3 majority vote, which is stipulated in the will. Selectmen recommend**  
   **STANDING VOTE**  
   **YES  112  NO  0**

18) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Dollars ($4,000) for the purpose of repairing the Angela Robinson Bandstand in Community Park. Further, to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to expend the $4,000 from the D&W&EL Cogswell Parks Fund. For this purpose, the total to be raised is $4,000.  
   **Selectmen recommend**

19) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighteen Thousand Dollars ($18,000) for the purpose of repairing/painting the exterior wood damage to the Town Hall and painting of the Hearse House.  
   **Selectmen recommend**

20) **VOTED** to raise and appropriate the sum of up to One Hundred Fifty Six Thousand Six Hundred Forty Eight Dollars ($156,648) 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 Forty Nine Thousand One Hundred Eighty Nine Dollars ($149,189), and authority is granted to take all steps to apply for such grant funding. The remaining cost, not to exceed Seven Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Nine Dollars ($7,459)
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

21) VOTED to authorize the Selectmen to accept Snowshoe Road as a town road subject to all conditions required by the Henniker Planning Board, Board of Selectmen, Road Agent, and Fire Chief.

Selectmen recommend

The Moderator reminded all those newly elected and re-elected to go to the Town Clerk’s office to be sworn in.

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).

Barbara French made a motion to congratulate the Selectmen for the fair, honest and complete budget presented today.

The meeting was recessed at 2:37 p.m.

A True copy Attest:
Kimberly I. Johnson, Town Clerk