Dear Reader,

A month has passed since Town Meeting. It has taken this long for some of us to recuperate. It was a very long night, dealing with some emotionally charged issues. There were several times it felt like folks had forgotten what a wonderful community we have chosen to live in, and that our town government is not a case of US versus THEM. Arrowsic is still a place in the world where we practice GOVERNMENT BY THE PEOPLE. Town Officials differ from other residents only in the fact that they spend many hours of their lives at the Town Hall trying to make things work. It's difficult to know what to say to people that neither want to pay token salaries to fellow residents for the time spent at work in the town, nor want to give of their own time, yet complain about work not getting done. We REALLY are all in this together.

The following is a summary of decisions that were made with some background discussion at Town Meeting which took place between 6pm and 12:30 am at the Town Hall in Arrowsic on June 29, 1989:

Skip Stinson was elected moderator, and **Ann Carlton was elected Town Clerk**. Ted Bertocci was re-elected to a three year term as Selectmen. (I heard cheers in the back of the room.) Kathleen Kahlri was re-elected to the School Committee, Ethel Lovett was re-elected as Treasurer, Nancy Brown Stump was re-elected as Tax Collector, and Tony Carey was re-elected as Fire Chief.

Salaries remained the same as last year with the exception of the Fire Chief (now $800), Assistant Chief (now $450), and the Road Commissioners (now $400 for the Chair and $150 to each member). A total of $14,580 was raised to pay Town Officers' salaries.

We raised and appropriated these amounts for the following purposes: $3500 for contingent expenses. (These include all postage, office supplies, building supplies, training manuals, and other expenses that don't have their own column to fit into the budget); $1550.00 to print the Town Report for 1990; $7,000 for insurance (includes $3,000 for the fire department); $2500.00 for the auditor's report; $2100 for utilities; $1700 for the Planning Board; and $250 for the Conservation Commission.

The School Budget was next up and after lengthy discussion was passed-- total tax dollars to be raised for schools: $191,252.00, $500.00 was raised and appropriated for a scholarship that will be awarded to Jaybun Kilbourne and Matthew Carey. At 8:00, the meeting adjourned for a 10 minute break and watermelon in the parking lot.

Ted Bertocci explained plans with a model he built for modest renovations to the Town Hall. These include adding a bathroom, and expanding the width of the building about ten feet to provide office spaces and open out to a larger meeting hall for Town meetings. The town voted a go-ahead for a feasibility study that may lead to a building proposal at the next Town Meeting.

It was voted not to have Alewife harvesting next year due to lack of alewifes, and a desire to bring them back.

After a long explanation of our budget it was voted to allow the selectmen to take the $27,504 out of the Capital Improvement Fund and add it to the General Fund which has been running at a deficit of about $30,000 for some years. This is due to the town having appropriated $30,000. from the General Fund into the Capital Improvement Fund (in 1981) without ever raising $30,000. It was stated at the time that this was surplus money. However, the audit did not show any surplus cash during that year, and has not shown any since. We realize this is completely confusing for anyone who doesn't spend a lot of time with our audit. We will be happy to explain one-on-one to anyone who makes a request.

The next article also required a long explanation. The Animal Control Fund is an account the Town is required by state law to have set up and dedicated (DEDICATED means that at the end of the year any unused dollars will remain in that particular fund rather than becoming part of the General Fund) Disposition of that money is to be voted on at Town Meeting. The Animal Control Fund disappeared off the Town books in 1963. The question was asked where that money was at the time of town meeting, and I responded that it had been going into the Town Clerk's account. To clarify that statement: that money was in Prudence Foster's personal Town Clerk account when she was Town Clerk, (it was not a Town account) and has since been paid back to the Town. The new Town Clerk, Ann Carlton, is in the process of setting up a Town of Arrowsic Town Clerk account to avoid further mishaps. The Town voted to appropriate $646.00 (the total amount that should have been in the Animal Control Fund from 1962 to 1989) in payment to the Animal Control Officer.

We voted to raise and appropriate $4300 for legal services, and $1200 for tax mapping.

A total of $63,000 was appropriated for roads, including $22,500 for snow plowing that will be done by Dick Elwell. Out of this, an approximate $17,200 will have to be raised from taxes.

$13,650 was voted to be raised and appropriated for solid waste removal, including septage and recycling.
The Fire Department, as usual garnered a lot of discussion. There was a plea for more members, and the amount of $6830 was raised for and appropriated to the Department. Also raised was $1000 for dry hydrants and $500 for fire road identification. $500 was appropriated from the sale of the old truck last year.

An article asking for any unused funds from last year’s appropriation to the Fire Department to be put into a Fire Department Capital Improvement Fund was defeated. Any unused funds from last year will therefore be placed in the General Fund.

It was voted to support all of the organizations listed under DUES/SUPPORT/MISC. column (article 61) for a total of $4954.

The Back River Protection Zoning Ordinance passed; a motion was made, seconded, and failed to adjourn to July 6; a Mobile Park Moratorium was enacted; a motion was made, seconded, and failed to adjourn to July 13; The Property Tax Resolution passed; Sewall Pond restrictions passed; a motion was made, seconded, and failed to adjourn to June 30; ammendments to the Town of Arrowsic Zoning Ordinance passed, establishing Rural Residential zones 1 (2 acre minimum lot size) and 2 (5 acre minimum lot size) and requiring cluster development in Rural Residential 2 subdivisions. The new Subdivision Ordinance was passed and new definitions to the Subdivision and Zoning ordinances were accepted.

An ordinance limiting motor boats on Sewall Pond to electric power only passed. An article allowing the Town Hall parking lot to be used by local businesses for the sale of their goods was passed. It was noted that this article was inspired by residents who run a farm in town and would like to sell their produce at the Town parking lot.

The Town rights-of-way and properties around the Town Hall were discussed, and an article was passed by the Town allowing the Selectmen to straighten up legal paperwork that has gone unattended for some years.

An ordinance creating a Town of Arrowsic Budget Committee was passed. This committee will remain ad hoc for one more year until officers can be voted in at Town Meeting 1990.

A motion was made to have next year’s meeting on a Saturday in March, and was defeated. A second motion was made to have the 1990 meeting on two nights in June- the 27 and 28, beginning at 6:30 on the 27 and going no later than 10:00, and to continue the 28 if necessary.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 am with about half as many people as we had when we started.

Total tax dollars to be raised this year, excluding County Taxes: $279,816.
Total tax dollars raised and appropriated at Town Meeting in 1988, (excluding County Taxes and overlay): 232,472.
Preliminary figures for total 1988 expenditures, (excluding County Taxes, Block Grants, excise tax, revenue sharing, and overlay): 278,341
Total tax dollars raised in 1987, excluding County Taxes and overlay: 245,374.
Audited figures for total expenditures in 1987, (excluding County Taxes, Block grants, revenue sharing, excise tax, and overlay): 273,903

On August 19, the Ladies Auxiliary of the Arrowsic Volunteer Fire Department will hold their second bake sale of the summer at Shaw’s Supermarket in Bath beginning at 8 am and going until they run out of things to sell or energy.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:
Alice Sperling, Don Hudson, and Kathi Kahrl

The Arrowsic School Committee is pleased to announce that the Scholarship Award for this year is going to be split between two outstanding seniors, Jaban Kilbourn and Matthew Carey. Both have superb academic records, long lists of extracurricular activities, and excellent recommendations. Jaban plans to attend the University of Vermont, and Matthew plans to attend SMVTI in the Electronics Technology Program.

We feel very proud that there are two such fine seniors from our town, and we wish them both the very best of luck.

On August 6 in 1945 the United States dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan. On August 9 we dropped the atomic bomb on Nagasaki, Japan. On Saturday, August 5 will be a local celebration for peace: The Hiroshima Day Family Peace Fair from 4pm til dusk at Deering Oaks Park. Theater, Storytelling, music, poetry, food, origami, and more. For more information, call 772-6710, or see the poster outside our Town Hall.

The Following people have vehicle registrations due in August:
Nancy Brown Stump, tax collector

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***We are looking for alternates to the Road Commission. Anyone interested can talk to the Selectmen, or the Commission.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT:
the Greenlaws
Teresa Ceruti
Gary Berger

To those applying for a gun permit, or a renewal of their present permit: be advised that there will be a three week (average) delay from the time you apply to the time the permit is issued: plan ahead if your permit is near expiration.