

MARCH 6, 2018 – TOWN MEETING

Present from Selectboard were Polly Rico, Larry Gervais, Pierre Letourneau, moderator Patrick Hayes, Town Clerk Billie Jo Draper.

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 by moderator Patrick Hayes.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Andre Beaulieu.

Article 1: To elect the following Town Officers:

Moderator for one year – Patrick Hayes

Town Clerk for three years – Billie Jo Draper

Treasurer for three years – Billie Jo Draper

Selectboard for two years – Dean Wright

Selectboard for three years – Larry Gervais

Three members of the forest committee –

Sarah Downes

Ben Maddox

Dennis Williams

Collector of Delinquent Taxes – Frances Jackson

Library Trustee – Eliza Weed

Article 2: To see if the voters will approve the following sums of money

- a. \$500.00 to the American Legion Post #42
- b. \$1,000.00 to the Enosburgh Town Band
- c. \$1,000.00 to the Enosburgh Conservation Committee
- d. \$2,500.00 to the Enosburgh Food Shelf
- e. \$1,000.00 to the Enosburgh Historical Society

Motion by Claudia Rose to take as a group, seconded by Mary Ann Mercy, all in favor, so moved.

Article 3: To see if the voters will approve the following sums of money

- a. \$1,500.00 to Champlain Valley Agency on Aging
- b. \$1,000.00 to CarePartners Adult Day Care
- c. \$1,000.00 to Franklin County Court Diversion & Community Justice Program
- d. \$1,000.00 to VT Association For the Blind & Visually Impaired
- e. \$5,840.00 to Franklin County Home Health Agency

- f. \$1,000.00 to Northwest Unit for Special Investigations
- g. \$2,800.00 to Northwestern Counseling & Support Services
- h. \$1,000.00 to Franklin County Industrial Development
- i. \$ 500.00 to Missisquoi River Basin
- j. \$2,238.00 to Green Mountain Transit
- k. \$ 100.00 to Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force
- l. \$ 270.00 to Vermont Center for Independent Living
- m. \$1,000.00 to Voices Against Violence (Laurie's House)
- n. \$ 150.00 to Green Up Vermont
- o. \$ 500.00 to VT Family Network

Motion by Michael Manahan to take as a block, seconded by Patricia Boucher, much discussion ensued. Dan Cunningham spoke about Vermont Association for the Blind and Northwest Counseling Service and some investigating he did with two groups, he looked at the IRS forms 990 that they file. Because of the information contained in those documents he feels that they both could be cut and he made the motion to cut d. VT Association for the Blind to \$400.00 and g. Northwestern Counseling & Support to \$1400.00, seconded by Mary Ann Mercy, discussion ensued about how and why the requests are what they are. Division of the house was called and yes – 37 no – 24, motion passed to amend d and g.

Arthur Steven Boal made a motion to decrease e. Franklin County Home Health to \$3504.00, seconded by Daniel Cunningham, discussion on this amendment, Edith Hawksworth spoke against the cut, stating that the services reach many ages, health conditions and people without insurance, Felisha Leffler spoke and said that the numbers that were in there letter stated that this group helped a larger number than g. Lew Rose and Ralph Rogosch were both against the cut. The motion was called to vote and defeated.

All in favor of the articles as they are printed with the exception to d and g as amended. Motion passed.

Article 4: Shall the town vote to give the selectboard general authority to enter into tax stabilization contracts with owns, lessees, bailees, or operators of commercial or industrial property, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 2741 (b)(1)?

Motion by Sandra Ferland, second by Suzanne Hull Parent, discussion ensued with Polly Rico speaking to this article on behalf of the selectboard. Avis Gervais asked how the selectboard decides on the projects. Larry Gervais Chair of the Selectboard said it will be a case by case basis and it would need careful thought and reviewing of their plans. Arthur Steven Boal remarked that the article seemed disingenuous meaning he feels it's a tax break and would rather the article was worded to ask the voters each time. Suzanne Hull Parent spoke that it won't cost the tax payers money. Dan Steiner said that to vote in favor is a good faith effort for the selectboard to make the decisions. Dean Wright spoke in support of this, for industry and jobs to help support the community and get people to want to stay. Joanne Carr asked if we could call it something different. Patrick Hayes asked that we paper ballot. 84 yes 4 no – Motion passed.

Article 5: Shall the legal voters approve the purchase of a new ambulance with a purchase price not to exceed \$142,734.00?

This article was by Australian ballot – passed with vote of 126 – yes and 16 – no.

Article 6: Will the legal voters vote an amount on the Grand List to cover the 2018 Town Budget?

Motion by Fran Jackson, seconded by Timothy Stetson, all in favor, so moved.

Small recess at 11:20 before the highway portion of the meeting.

Highway

Article 1: Will the legal voters of the Town Road District authorize the Selectboard to vote an amount on the grand list to cover the 2018 Town Road District Budget?

Motion by Tom Kafka, second by Amanda Cronin. Brief discussion, Bob Engstrom said how great the improvements are to the Tyler Branch Road and thought it was great there was a grant. Dennis Williams said he liked to read Joey Clarks report as it helped with reviewing the budget. Moderator Hayes called the question, all in favor, so moved.

Article 2: To transact any other non-binding business thought proper when met.

Meeting recessed until 7 at which time the polls will close.

Respectfully submitted,
Billie Jo Draper
Town Clerk/Treasurer
Board Clerk