



TOWN OF CAMBRIDGE

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

CAMBRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – JEFFERSONVILLE, VT

After Scoutmaster Roger Allen presented a new podium built by Eagle Scout candidate Eli Silman, the Boy Scouts presented colors, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Jerome Cole called the meeting to order at 9AM. Cole read an invocation and reviewed the basics of Robert's Rules of Order. A motion was made by Stearns Allen to suspend the reading of the Warning, seconded by Tyler Machia, and voted in the affirmative.

Article 1: To elect a Moderator of the Town Meeting for the year ensuing. Jerry Cole nominated by Larry Wyckoff, Tyler Machia seconded. Motion for Clerk to cast one ballot, Jerry Cole elected (39th year).

Article 2: To hear the reports of the Town Officers. Motion by Larry Wyckoff, Stearns Allen seconded. Wyckoff reviewed the Selectboard's Report. Wyckoff presented recognition plaques for "Stewards of the Greenway" to Laird MacDowell, and Clayton "Zeke" Zucker in absentia. Tyler Machia reviewed the report of the Community Engagement Team and introduced a new brochure "Are you ready to serve your local government", which was made available to every attendee. There were no other reports.

Article 3: Shall the Town pay its Town Officers for the year ensuing, and if so, how much? Motion by Jack Corse to pay the same as last year, Bill Sander seconded. Approved by voice vote.

Article 4: To elect all Town Officers required by law for the year ensuing:

1. Selectboard Member for 3 years (by ballot). Larry Wyckoff nominated by Dana Sweet, Joanne Osgood seconded. Motion for Clerk to cast one ballot, Wyckoff elected.
2. Lister for 3 years (by ballot). Dale Copping nominated by Stearns Allen, Tyler Machia seconded. Motion for Clerk to cast one ballot, Copping elected.
3. Lister for 2 years (by ballot). Thea Whitcavitch nominated by Jan Schilling. Motion for Clerk to cast one ballot, Whitcavitch elected.

4. Auditor for 3 years (by ballot). Bonnie Hitchcock nominated by Dana Sweet. Motion for Clerk to cast one ballot, Hitchcock elected.
5. First Constable for 1 year. David Jones nominated by Greg Johnson. Mark Schwartz nominated by Nan Schwartz. Both candidates discussed their qualifications. Mary Paulman requested a paper ballot. Bill Sander and Sue Taylor asked about powers and responsibilities. Larry Wyckoff and Mark Schilling responded. Ballots: Jones-78, Schwartz-130. Schwartz elected.
6. Collector of Delinquent Taxes for 1 year. Mark Schilling nominated by Dana Sweet. Motion for Clerk to cast one ballot, Schilling elected.
7. Grand Juror for 1 year. Mike Spaulding nominated by Tyler Machia. Motion for Clerk to cast one ballot, Spaulding elected.
8. Library Trustee for 5 years. Jan Schilling nominated by Thea Whitcavitch. Motion for Clerk to cast one ballot, Schilling elected.
9. Trustee for Public Money for 1 year. Elise Raymond was nominated by Sandy Albright. Motion for Clerk to cast one ballot, Raymond elected.
10. Agent to Convey Real Estate for 1 year. Terry McCuin nominated by Dana Sweet. Motion for Clerk to cast one ballot, McCuin elected.
11. Agent to Prosecute and Defend Suits for 1 year. Terry McCuin nominated by Dana Sweet. Bill Sander asked if the candidate need to be a lawyer, Larry Wyckoff did not think so. Motion for Clerk to cast one ballot, McCuin elected.
12. Cemetery Commissioner for 3 years. Sandy Albright was nominated by Elise Raymond. Motion for Clerk to cast one ballot, Albright elected.
13. Cemetery Commissioner for 2 years (subsequently to be a 3-year position). Kate McCuin-Clark nominated by Dana Sweet. Motion for Clerk to cast one ballot, McCuin-Clark elected.
14. Cemetery Commissioner for 1 year (subsequently to be a 3-year position). Jen Bartlau nominated by Larry Wyckoff. Motion for Clerk to cast one ballot, Bartlau elected.

Article 5: Shall the Town vote to increase the size of the Selectboard from three members to five members, effective on Town Meeting Day 2019? Motion by Kim Martin, Deborah Pomeroy seconded. A discussion ensued with comments from Kim Martin, Larry Wyckoff, Fred Boyden, Tim Soutiere, Stearns Allen, Ruthanne Rust, Karen Denniston, Cora Conly, Dana Sweet, George Putnam, Michael Moser, and Anne Standish. Marilyn Clinger moved to call the question, and there was a request for a paper ballot. 167 voted yes, 46 voted no, the Article was passed.

Article 6: Shall the Town appropriate an amount not to exceed \$75,000 as total annual compensation, including benefits, for the new position of Town Administrator? Motion by Ruthanne Rust, Dave Crane seconded. A discussion ensued with comments from Ruthanne Rust, Jack Corse,

Laird MacDowell, Jan Schilling and Tim Soutiere. Sue Taylor asked the Selectboard for a synopsis of the position; George Putnam and Larry Wyckoff gave a description of responsibilities and stated that the appointed position answers to the Selectboard. Tricia Hogan moved to call the question. The Article was passed by voice vote.

Article 7: Shall the Town appropriate an amount not to exceed \$14,420 for support of the Green Mountain Transit bus service to Burlington for the period from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019? Motion by George Putnam, Kim Martin seconded. George Putnam gave a synopsis of the program, ridership figures and costs. Chapin Kaynor, a representative of GMT was permitted to speak on behalf of GMT by unanimous approval. A discussion ensued with comments from Tim Soutiere, Jan Schilling, Fred Boyden, Tyler Machia, Jan Sander, Elise Raymond, Deborah Pomeroy, Mary Hand, Michael Moser, Jeff Spring, Duane Howard, and Gary Chicoine. Joann Wyckoff moved to call the question. The Article was passed by show of hands.

Article 8: Shall the Town authorize, for the period from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018, and in addition to any other appropriations approved in prior articles, general fund expenditures of \$1,654,142.71 and highway fund expenditures of \$1,112,686.47, of which \$2,089,050.18 shall be raised by property taxes and \$677,779.00 by non-property tax revenues? Motion by Dana Sweet, Joann Wyckoff seconded. A question about salaries from Judy Walls was answered by Larry Wyckoff and Mark Schilling. A question from Jane Shaw about the Town Hall Postal Account (renamed Town Hall Account) was answered by Larry Wyckoff and Mark Schilling. Tim Soutiere moved to call the question. The Article was approved by voice vote.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12 noon and resumed at 1pm. A motion was made, seconded, and voted to suspend the rules to allow Richard Westman and Bernie Juskiewicz to address the meeting on legislative matters.

Article 9: Shall the Town vote to collect its taxes for the calendar year 2018 by delivery or U.S. Postal Service postmark on or before November 15, 2018? Motion by Larry Wyckoff, Dana Sweet seconded. The Article was approved by voice vote.

Article 10: Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to acquire land by gift or purchase, for a municipal forest or to produce wood products, maintain wildlife habitat, protect water supplies, provide forest recreation for conservative education and other purposes, and to enter into lease agreements for solar installations on Town land? Motion by Stearns Allen, Seconded. Bill Sander noted a typo in the article. Paul Sciortino asked if the Article applied to private property, specifically eminent domain. Larry Wyckoff stated that the Article relates to property being offered to the Town for donation or sale, and not for acquisition through eminent domain. Mary Hand offered comments in support of the Article. The Article was approved by voice vote.

Article 11: Discussion of other nonbinding business. Paul Sciortino discussed the Pumpkin Harbor Road project (roadway flooding mitigation), thanking the Selectboard for bringing the various regulatory agencies together in the process. Sciortino feels that the board is moving away from implementing the current plan because of the cost. He expressed his opinion that the Town should be able to find other forms of funding instead of exploring an alternative plan which involves his property. He then stated his opinion that, although he supports it, the Town needs to be more

transparent in testing and implementing an interim emergency medical evacuation plan for Bartlett Hill Road. Larry Wyckoff replied that the board was not scared of the cost, but they were not sure the voters would support a financing measure at Town Meeting this year this year given the proposed nine cent increase in the school tax rate. The board wanted to explore options before bringing it to the voters in a special meeting to be warned before summer. Other discussion by Sciortino, Wyckoff and Dana Sweet included the limits of state funding for a town road, the limited use of pent roads for emergency access, landowner compensation, and the fact that the road raising project would still not guarantee an open road in heavy flooding.

Hearing no other business, the moderator entertained a motion to adjourn. Larry Wyckoff moved to adjourn, Dana Sweet seconded, and the voters adjourned the meeting.

ATTEST:

Mark K. Schilling, Clerk/Treasurer

ATTEST:

Jerome Cole, Moderator