

# Minutes

## For the Regular Annual Meeting and Town School District Windham, Vermont March 7, 2017

### **Town Meeting**

Voting taking place by Australian Ballot on Act 46 school board consolidation simultaneously with Town and School District Meetings.

Michael McLaine, Moderator, reviewed housekeeping issues and Roberts Rules of Order before calling the meeting to order at 10:07 am.

#### **Article 1: To elect a Town Moderator for the year ensuing.**

Alison Trowbridge nominated Michael McLaine as Town Moderator. Bob Bingham made a motion to close the nominations and have the clerk cast one ballot for Michael McLaine. Nancy Tips seconded.

**The voters elected Michael McLaine to serve as Town Moderator for 2017.**

**Article 2: To elect a School Moderator for the year ensuing.** Antje Ruppert made a motion to elect Michael McLaine as School Moderator for 2017. Jerry Dyke moved the nominations be closed and the clerk cast one ballot for Michael. Claudia Voight seconded.

**The voters elected Michael McLaine to serve as School Moderator for 2017.**

A motion on floor was made by Michael Simonds to move article 4 to be considered before article 3. Mary McCoy seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by the voters.

#### **Article 4: To elect the following Town Officers:**

<u>Office</u>	<u>Term</u>
Selectman	3 years
Lister	3 years
Lister	2 years

Auditor	3 years
Delinquent Tax Collector	1 year
Grand Juror	1 year
Town Agent	1 year
Windham Center Cemetery Commissioner	5 years
West Windham Cemetery Commissioner	5 years
North Windham Cemetery Commissioner	5 years
Library Trustee	5 years
Leland & Gray Union High School Representative	3 years
Windham School Director	3 years
Windham School Director	2 years

**Selectman:** Walter Woodruff made a motion to elect Kord Scott as Selectman. Mary Boyer made a motion to elect Chris Cummings as Selectman. Both candidates made statements about themselves and the issues they hope to work on as Selectmen. **Kord Scott was elected Selectman for a term of 3 years.**

Roger Fox and Elsie Smith came in to talk about Mountain Valley Medical Clinic. The Mountain Valley Board and administrative staff will not ask for money from the Town this year to be used by the clinic.

**Lister 3-Year Term:** John Hoover nominated Alison Cummings for Lister for 3 years. Alison Trowbridge made a motion to close the nominations and the clerk cast one ballot for Alison Cummings. Sally Hoover seconded. The voters voted all in favor. Alison Cummings was elected Lister for a 3-year term.

**Lister 2-Year Term:** John Hoover nominated Meredith Tips-McLaine for Lister for a 2-year term. Meredith Tips-McLaine introduced herself. Alison Trowbridge made a motion to close the nominations and the clerk cast one ballot for Meredith Tips-McLaine. Seconded by Cindy Kehoe. **Meredith Tips-McLaine was elected Lister.**

**Auditor:** Ginny Crittenden nominated Imme Maurath. Maureen Bell made a motion to close the nominations and the clerk cast one ballot for Imme Maurath. Alison Trowbridge seconded. The Town voted all in favor. **Imme Maurath was elected as Auditor for a 3-year term.**

**Delinquent Tax Collector:** Carol Bellucci nominated Ernie Friedli as Delinquent Tax Collector for a 1-year term. Walter made a motion to close the nominations and the clerk cast one ballot for Ernie Friedli. Heath seconded.

The Town voted all in favor. **Ernie was elected as Delinquent Tax Collector for a 1-year term.**

**Grand Juror:** Mary McCoy nominated Jim Scott for Grand Juror. Walter Woodruff made motion to close the nominations and the clerk cast one ballot for Jim Scott. Alison Trowbridge seconded.. **Jim Scott was elected Grand Juror.**

**Town Agent:** Carol Merritt made a motion to nominate Michael Simonds as Town Agent. Walter Woodruff made a motion to close the nominations and the clerk cast one ballot for Michael Simonds. Craig Bailes seconded. **Michael Simonds was elected Town Agent for a 1-year term.**

**Windham Center Cemetery Commissioner:** Walter nominated Heath Boyer as Windham Center Cemetery Commissioner. Alison Trowbridge made a motion to close the nominations and the clerk cast one ballot for Heath Boyer. Cindy Kehoe seconded. **Heath was elected as Windham Center Cemetery Commissioner for a 5-year term.**

**West Windham Cemetery Commissioner:** David Crittenden nominated Pete Newton. John Hoover made a motion to close the nominations and the clerk cast one ballot for Pete Newton. Alison Trowbridge seconded. **Pete Newton was elected as West Windham Cemetery Commissioner for a 5-year term.**

**North Windham Cemetery Commissioner:** Mary McCoy nominated Carol Merritt. Walter made motion to close the nominations and the clerk cast one ballot for Carol Merritt. Alison Trowbridge seconded. **Carol Merritt was elected as North Windham Cemetery Commissioner for a 5-year term.**

**Library Trustee:** Cindy Kehoe made a motion to elect Maureen Bell as Library Trustee. John Hoover made a motion to close the nominations and the clerk cast one ballot for Maureen Bell. Kathy Scott seconded. **Maureen Bell was elected Library Trustee for a 5-year term.**

**Leland & Gray Union High School Representative:** Antje Ruppert nominated Howie Ires. Kathy made a motion to close the nominations and the clerk cast one ballot for Howie Ires. Alison Trowbridge seconded. **Howie Ires was elected to this position for a 3-year term.**

**Windham School Director 3-Year Term:** Carol Bellucci nominated Carolyn Partridge as Windham School Director for a 3-year term. John Hoover made a motion to close the nominations and the clerk cast one ballot for Carolyn Partridge. Antje Rupert seconded. **Carolyn Partridge was elected Windham School Director for a 3-year term.**

**Windham School Director 1-Year Term:** Antje Ruppert nominated Barbara Davis as Windham School Director for a 1-year term. Alison Trowbridge made

a motion to close the nominations and the clerk cast one ballot for Barbara Davis. Antje seconded. **Barbara Davis was elected Windham School Director for 2-year term.**

**Article 3:** To see if voters will accept the Town Report prepared by the Auditors. Peter Chamberlain made a motion to accept the Town Report and Heath seconded. Ernie made a statement about the need to make the report presented more clearly for easier understanding. Mary McCoy asked that the Auditors make all the corrections including mistakes in the School board term, listed erroneously as a two-year term (It should be a 1-year term.) Maureen made a motion to call the question. Kord Scott seconded. That motion passed unanimously. **Article 3 was voted on and passed unanimously. The Town report was accepted by the voters.**

Bill Dunkel updated figures from pages 29, 35 the money spent from the Windham Weatherization Fund is \$4067 and the amount left in the fund is \$932.

**The Town Meeting was recessed at 11:40 and the town school meeting was called to order at 11:40.**

## **Town School District Meeting**

**Article 5: Shall the voters pay a salary of \$2250 (\$750 each) to the School Directors for FY 2017-2018?** Antje Ruppert made a motion to pay the Windham School Directors a salary of \$2250 (\$750 each.) Alison Trowbridge seconded. John Lingley made a motion to call the question. Kathy Scott seconded. The Town voted all in favor to call the question. **The Town voted all in favor on Article 5.**

**Article 6: Shall the voters authorize the School Directors to expend \$378,842 to defray the expenses of the Windham Elementary School for the FY 2017-2018 school year?** Kathy Scott made a motion to authorize the School Directors to expend \$378,842 to defray the expenses of the Windham Elementary School for the FY 2017-2018 school year. Howie seconded. Antje Ruppert made a presentation on the proposed school budget. Alan Partridge moved to call the question. Kathy Scott seconded. The motion to call the question passed unanimously. **Article 6 then passed unanimously.**

Claudia Voight made a motion to recess for lunch at 12:05. Howie seconded.

Alison Trowbridge made a motion to adjourn the Town School District Meeting at 11:55. Seconded by Kathy Scott.

**Town School District Meeting adjourned at 11:55.**

**Town Meeting resumed at 11:55.**

Carolyn Partridge, State Representative, came to speak about business at the State House.

## **Town Meeting**

**Article 7: Shall the voters authorize the Town Treasurer to collect current taxes?**

Alison Trowbridge moved the question. It was seconded by Kathy Scott. Kathy Scott made a motion to call the question. Seconded by John Hoover. This motion passed unanimously.

It was voted all in favor. The article passed.

**Article 8: Shall the voters appropriate \$192,461 for the General Fund? Voted 2016: \$187,461.**

John Hoover made a motion to appropriate \$192,461 for the General Fund. Seconded by Carolyn Partridge. Ernie Friedli spoke about the lack of a Meetinghouse report to explain its expenses. Ernie made a motion to cut the Meetinghouse appropriation from \$9,000 to \$4,000. Rick Weitzel seconded. This will amend the total budget article to \$187,461. Maureen made a motion to call the question. Mary seconded it and this motion passed unanimously. The amendment was voted on next: It was voted down. Bob Bingham, Chair of the Planning Commission, answered Howie's question about the increase in the Planning Commission budget. Howie made a motion to decrease the Planning Commission budget by \$7472.92 which would change the general fund budget article to \$184,999.08. Mary McCoy seconded. John Lingley called the question. Kathy Scott seconded. The motion to call the question passed unanimously. The Vote on Amendment to change budget to \$184,999.08 by deducting solely from the Planning Commission budget failed. Jerry Dyke called question on Article 8. Kathy Scott seconded. The motion passed unanimously. **Vote to pass article 8 passed unanimously.**

**Article 9: Shall the voters appropriate \$410,602 for winter and summer roads? Voted 2016: \$402,970**

Carolyn Partridge made a motion to appropriate \$410,602 for winter and summer roads. John Hoover seconded. John Hoover made a motion to call the question. Kathy Scott seconded. The motion to call the question passed. **The voters passed article 9 as written.**

**Article 10: Shall the voters appropriate \$90,000 for repaving and \$15,000 for the bridges and large structures fund?**

**Voted 2016: \$95,000 for repaving and \$15,000 for bridges and large structures.**

Carolyn Partridge made a motion to appropriate \$90,000 for repaving and \$15,000 for the bridges and large structures fund. Kathy Scott seconded. Maureen Bell called the question. John Hoover seconded. The motion to call the question passed. **Voters passed article 10 as written.**

**Article 11: Shall the voters appropriate \$60,000 in a new Road Machinery Replacement Fund?**

Carol Merritt made a motion to appropriate \$60,000 in a new Road Machinery Replacement Fund. Carolyn Partridge seconded. John Lingley made a motion to call the question. Kathy seconded. The motion to call the question passed. **Article 11 was approved as written by the voters.**

**Article 12: Shall the voters appropriate \$30,000 to the Windham Volunteer Fire Company?**

Carolyn Partridge made a motion to appropriate \$30,000 to the Windham Volunteer Fire Company. Jan Wyman seconded. Rick Weitzel explained some of the reasons for the increase in the Fire Company Appropriations for 2017, including the need to replace outdated equipment and the anticipated purchase of a new fire engine in the future. John Lingley made a motion to call the question. Kathy Scott seconded. The motion to call the question passed. **Article 12 passed as written.**

**Article 13: Shall the voters appropriate \$5,000 to the Windham Weatherization Fund to be used to reduce energy use and increase energy efficiency for Windham's public buildings?**

Carolyn Partridge made a motion to appropriate \$5,000 to the Windham Weatherization Fund. Peter Chamberlain seconded. Bill Dunkel, Chair of the Windham Energy Committee, reported that the committee used last year's funds to conduct energy audits on the Town Office, School, Town Garage, and

Meetinghouse. Insulation was put into the office trailer and a door between the garage and the office was installed. Alison Trowbridge made a motion to call the question. Kathy Scott seconded. The motion to call the question passed. **Article 13 passed unanimously.**

**Article 14: Shall the voters appropriate \$500 to Rescue Inc.?** Alison Trowbridge made a motion to appropriate \$500 to Rescue Inc. Kathy Scott seconded. The motion to call the question was made by John Lingley and seconded by Kathy Scott. The motion to call the question passed. **Article 14 was approved as written.**

**Article 15: Shall the voters appropriate \$250 to the Windham County Humane Society?** Alison Trowbridge made a motion to appropriate \$250 to the Windham County Humane Society. Peter Chamberlain seconded. Jo-Jo Chlebogiannis made a motion to amend the motion to increase the appropriation to \$350. This was seconded by Kathy Scott and she made a motion to call the question. Jojo seconded. **Article 15, amended to a \$350 appropriation to the Windham County Humane Society was passed by the voters.**

**Article 16: Shall the voters appropriate \$250 to the Townshend Food Shelf?** Peter Chamberlain moved the article. Carolyn Partridge seconded. Rick Weitzel moved to increase the article to \$350. Kathy Scott seconded. Jo-Jo made a motion to amend the amendment to \$500 and Peter Chamberlain seconded. Rick retracted his amendment. Voters approved the amendment to \$500 unanimously. Rick Weitzel called the question. Kathy seconded. The motion to call the question passed. **Article 16, amended to be a \$500 appropriation to the Townshend Food Shelf, was passed by the voters.**

**Article 17: Shall the voters of the Town of Windham make the property owned by the Windham Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company, Inc., located at 290 White Road, be tax exempt for the 5-year period from April 1st, 2017, to March 31st, 2022?**

Carolyn Partridge made a motion to make the property owned by the Windham Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company, Inc., located at 290 White Road, be tax exempt for the 5-year period from April 1st, 2017, to March 31st, 2022. Peter Chamberlain seconded. John Lingley moved the question and Peter Chamberlain seconded. The motion to call the question passed and **Article 17 was passed as written.**

**Article 18: To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.** Mary Boyer made a motion for the Select Board to write a letter to the Road Crew thanking them for the improved maintenance of the Town's roads. Alison Trowbridge seconded. The motion was passed unanimously. The Select Board will take this under advisement.

Leigh Merinoff, of the West River Community Project, announced some of the programs going on at the Country Store in West Townshend.

Vance Bell discussed the new official Town website he is developing. It is expected to be up and running in a month.

Motion to adjourn at 2:57 made by Carolyn Partridge and seconded by Ginny Crittenden.

**Town meeting adjourned at 2:57 pm.**

Alison Trowbridge reminded the Town to watch out for migrating salamanders and other amphibians on rainy spring nights.

Submitted by Alison Trowbridge, Select Board Clerk.