

MINUTES
of the Annual Town Meeting
for the Town of Wolcott, Vermont
March 7, 2017

Wolcott Elementary School, Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at nine o'clock in the forenoon

Joe Hester-Ingram opened the meeting at 9:09 a.m. He read announcements and made introductions of the day. The local boy scout troop presented their color guard salute and started off Town Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Harvey Reed made the motion to waive the reading of the Town Warning. Cornelius Reed seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

Article 1. To elect a moderator to govern Town Meeting and for the year ensuing.

Cornelius Reed nominated Joe Hester-Ingram for moderator. Harvey Reed seconded the nomination.

Linda Reeve made the motion to cease nominations. Harvey Reed seconded the motion. Joe Hester-Ingram elected moderator for town meeting on a voice vote.

Article 2. To receive and act upon the various reports of the Town officials.

Robert Harris made the motion to accept the article. Pam Peck seconded the motion. Belinda Clegg made the announcement that there were two mistakes in the Town Report. The date on the back should be March 7th not the 1st and on the inside cover of Town Report under Kim Gravel is Todd Harris's phone number. Kim is in the phonebook if anyone needs her phone number.

Voice vote. Motion passed.

Article 3. To elect the following Town officers as required by law:

Selectboardthree year term

Belinda Clegg nominated Eric Furs. Bessie Martin seconded the nomination. Harvey Reed called for nominations to cease. Belinda Clegg seconded the motion.

Voice Vote. Clerk instructed to cast one ballot for Eric Furs.

Eric Furs elected to the Selectboard for a three year term.

Selectboard two year term

Belinda Clegg nominated Michael Davidson. Kim Gravel seconded the nomination. Robert Harris nominated Ron Barre. Mary Harris seconded the nomination. Harvey Reed called for nominations to cease. Cornelius Reed seconded the motion.

PAPER BALLOT – 91 votes cast. 45 + 1 = 46 to win.

Michael Davidson – 71

Ron Barre - 18

Blank - 1

Spoiled - 1

Michael Davidson elected as Selectboard for a two year term.

Listerthree year term

Tom Martin nominated Tracey Grunow. Cornelius Reed seconded the nomination. Harvey Reed called for nominations to cease. Cornelius Reed seconded the motion. Tracey Grunow elected as a Lister for a three year term. Clerk instructed to cast one vote.

Town Agent to Deed Real Estateone year term

Belinda Clegg nominated Dan Noyes. Harvey Reed seconded the nomination. Peter Burgess called for nominations to cease. Amy Coolbeth seconded the motion. Dan Noyes elected as Town Agent to Deed Real Estate for a one year term.

Town Agent to Prosecute and Defend Suits.....one year term

Belinda Clegg nominated Dan Noyes. Linda Reeve seconded the nomination. Harvey Reed called for nominations to cease. Cornelius Reed seconded the motion. Dan Noyes elected as Town Agent to Prosecute and Defend Suits for a one year term.

Library Trusteefive year term

Holly Page-Bjerke nominated Dawn Cochran. Kim Gravel seconded the nomination. Harvey Reed called for nominations to cease. Bill Cotten seconded the motion. Dawn Cochran elected as a Library Trustee for a five year term.

Cemetery Commissionerfive year term

Cornelius Reed nominated Harvey Reed. Dave Coolbeth seconded the nomination. Bessie Martin called for nominations to cease. Kim Gravel seconded the motion. Harvey Reed elected as Cemetery Commissioner for a five year term.

Cemetery Commissionerfour year term

Cornelius Reed nominated Lucien Gravel. Harvey Reed seconded the nomination. Robert Vize nominated Robert Harris. Judy Ward seconded the nomination. Kim Gravel called for nominations to cease. Bill Cotten seconded the motion.

PAPER BALLOT – 77 votes cast. 38 + 1 = 39 to win.

Lucien Gravel – 43

Robert Harris - 30

Blank - 0

Spoiled - 4

Lucien Gravel elected as Cemetery Commissioner for a four year term.

Grand Jurorone year term

Belinda Clegg nominated John Randall Pratt. Pam Peck seconded the nomination. Harvey Reed called for nominations to cease. Peter Burgess seconded the motion. John Randall Pratt elected as Grand Juror for a one year term.

Article 4. Shall the Town publish a list of delinquent taxpayers as of December 31st and a list of any other delinquent accounts due the Town in the town report?

Peter Burgess made the motion to accept the article. Cornelius Reed seconded the motion. Peter Burgess called for the question. Cindy Lowell seconded the motion. Voice vote. Motion passed.

Article 5. Shall the voters appropriate \$203,265.00 to the Lamoille County Sheriff's Department to pay for police services?

Peter Burgess made the motion to accept the article as read. Harvey Reed seconded the motion. Lynn Gribbin feels that we pay too much. What can we do about it? Belinda Clegg asked for a show of seven hands to allow John Ross and Mike Durant from the Sheriff's Department to speak and answer questions. Discussion. Joe Clark expressed concerns about Town Hill Road and speeding. So did Adam Berg especially around 6:30-8 am weekday mornings. Directed patrols were discussed. Ron Barre expressed thoughts on the speeding on the North Wolcott Road. Bill Cotten said that the greatest benefit for having the Sheriff's Department is surety that they will be there if needed. Bill Cotten made the motion to call the question. Peter Burgess seconded the motion. Voice vote. Motion passed.

Article 6. Shall the voters appropriate \$40,848.00 to the Lamoille County Sheriff's Department to pay for dispatch?

Belinda Clegg made the motion to accept the article as read. Bessie Martin seconded the motion. Harvey Reed made the motion to call the question. Peter Burgess seconded it. Voice vote. Motion passed.

Article 7. Shall the voters appropriate \$22,935.00 to the following social service agencies, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 2691?

500	<i>American Red Cross</i>
\$1,200	<i>Central VT Adult Basic Education</i>
400	<i>Central VT Community Action Council, Inc.</i>
1,500	<i>Central Vermont Council on Aging</i>
500	<i>Hardwick Area Community Coalition</i>
6,244	<i>Hardwick Emergency Rescue Squad</i>
400	<i>Home Share Now</i>
500	<i>Justice for Dogs</i>
600	<i>Lamoille Community Food Share</i>
1,031	<i>Lamoille County Planning Commission</i>
1,082	<i>Lamoille County Special Investigation Unit</i>
750	<i>Lamoille Economic Development Corp.</i>
500	<i>Lamoille Family Center</i>
\$5,028	<i>Lamoille Home Health & Hospice</i>
1,400	<i>Meals on Wheels of Lamoille County</i>
200	<i>Retired & Senior Volunteer Program</i>
1,000	<i>Rural Community Transportation, Inc.</i>
100	<i>VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force</i>

Bill Cotten made the motion to accept. Harvey Reed seconded the motion. Harvey Reed motioned to call the question. Peter Burgess seconded the motion. Oral vote to call the questions passed. Voice vote. Motion passed.

Article 8. Shall the voters authorize payment of real property taxes to the Town

Treasurer in two equal installments; with delinquent taxes having charged against them three percent(3%) penalty 1-5 days late, five percent (5%) penalty 5-10 days late, eight percent (8%) penalty after 10 days late and collect interest on late and delinquent payments of one (1%) percent per month for the first three months and one and half (1 ½%) thereafter (32 VSA 4873 & 5136 (a) ?

**First installment to be paid on or before November 15, 2017
Second installment to be paid on or before May 15, 2018
(32 VSA 4871)**

Jan Roy made the motion to accept the article. Harvey Reed seconded the motion. Belinda Clegg called the question. Harvey Reed seconded the motion. Voice vote to call the question passed. Voice vote. Motion passed.

Article 9. Shall the voters authorize a total general fund expenditure for operating expenses of \$1,302,601.00 of which \$982,840.00 shall be raised in taxes and \$319,761.00 by non-tax revenues?

Belinda Clegg made the motion to have the voters authorize a total general fund expenditure. for operating expenses of \$1,302,601.00 of which \$982,840.00 shall be raised in taxes and \$319,761.00 by non-tax revenues. Bessie Martin seconded the motion. Bill Cotten made the motion to call the question. Peter Burgess seconded the motion. Voice vote to call the question passed. Voice vote. Motion passed.

Article 10. To transact any other non-binding business.

Belinda Clegg thanked the Wolcott Volunteer Fire Department for showing up when needed.

Jan Roy mentioned that Montpelier was voting to recognize David Budbill as the "Poet of the People for Vermont". Thought we should do the same. People agreed.

Old School House committee asked for support from the town to restore the old schoolhouse on school street. Show of hands to approve board and committee moving forward passed.

Article 11. Motion to Adjourn


Harvey Reed made the motion to adjourn. Robert Harris seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Linda J. Martin, Town Clerk

Minutes Attested by:


Belinda H. Clegg, Assistant Election Official

ANNUAL TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
for the Town of Wolcott, Vermont
March 7, 2017

Wolcott School District meeting opened at 11:38 a.m.
Reading of the School Warning was waived.

Joe Hester-Ingram moderator opened the meeting.

Article 1. To elect the following school district officers for the ensuing year:

School District Meeting Moderator

Robert Harris nominated Joe Hester-Ingram. Jan Roy seconded the nomination. Bill Cotten called for nominations to cease. Bessie Martin seconded the motion
Voice vote - passed.

Joe Hester-Ingram elected to be Moderator for a term of one year.

District Clerk

Belinda Clegg nominated Linda Martin. Pam Peck seconded the nomination. Bill Cotten called for nominations to cease. Peter Burgess seconded the motion. Voice vote. Motion passed.

Linda Martin elected to be District Clerk for a term of one year.

District Treasurer

Belinda Clegg nominated Linda Martin. Bernard Earle seconded the nomination. Peter Burgess called for nominations to cease. Lucien Gravel seconded the motion. Voice vote. Motion passed.

Linda Martin elected to be District Treasurer for a term of one year.

Alternate District Treasurer

Linda Martin nominated Belinda Clegg. Pam Peck seconded the nomination. Peter Burgess called for nominations to cease. Lucien Gravel seconded the motion. Voice vote. Motion passed.

Belinda Clegg elected to be Alternate District treasurer for a term of one year.

Article 2. To elect all necessary School Directors as required by law:

School Director for a term of three years.

Pam Peck nominated Kate Wilson. Bill Cotten seconded the nomination.
Belinda Clegg nominated Christy Moodie. Richard Gravel seconded the nomination.
Lucien Gravel called for nominations to cease. Belinda Clegg seconded the motion.

PAPER BALLOT – 80 votes cast. 40 + 1 = 41 to win.

Kate Wilson – 31

Christy Moodie - 49

Christy Moodie elected School Director for a term of three year.

School Director for a term of two years.

Katie Furs nominated Anne Farley. Amy Coolbeth seconded the nomination.

Bill Cotten nominated Kate Wilson. Pam Peck seconded the nomination.

Maxfield English nominated Gordon Young. Bessie Martin seconded the nomination.

Lucien Gravel called for nominations to cease. Peter Burgess seconded the motion.

PAPER BALLOT – 92 votes cast. $46 + 1 = 47$ to win.

Kate Wilson – 27

Anne Farley - 35

Gordon Young - 30

No winner.

PAPER BALLOT – 93 votes cast. $46 + 1 = 47$ to win.

Kate Wilson – 24

Anne Farley - 40

Gordon Young - 28

Spoiled - 1

No winner. Lowest candidate was dropped per statute.

PAPER BALLOT – 87 votes cast. $43 + 1 = 44$ to win.

Anne Farley - 44

Gordon Young - 43

Anne Farley elected to be a School Director for a term of two years.

Article 3. To see if the voters of the school district will authorize the following salaries to be paid for the officers and directors of the school district:

School Board Chair and members \$000.00/yr

District Treasurer \$850.00/yr District Clerk \$000.00/yr

Alternate District Treasurer \$ 25.00/pay period as needed

Lucien Gravel made the motion to accept the article as read. Peter Burgess seconded the motion. Peter Burgess made the motion to call the question. Lucien Gravel seconded the motion. Voice vote. Motion passed.

Article 4. To receive and act upon the various reports of the Town School District Officers and directors.

Peter Burgess motioned to approve the article. Pam Peck seconded the motion.

Peter Burgess made the motion to call the question. Bill Cotten seconded the motion. Voice vote. Motion passed.

Article 5. Shall the voters of the School District approve the school board to expend \$4,877,181.00 which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved will result in education spending of \$16,961.00 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 11.42% higher than spending for the current year.

Voting on the aforementioned Article 5 will be by Australian ballot at the Wolcott Town School on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. at which time the polls will open, and 7:00 p.m. at which time the polls will close. The legal voters of the Wolcott Town School District are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said meeting shall be as provided in Chapter 43 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes annotated.

Australian Ballot Results –232 ballots cast

Yes – 73

No – 159

Article 5 turned down by Australian ballot.

Article 6. To see if the voters of the town will authorize the School board to borrow money in anticipation of state revenues.

Lucien Gravel motioned to approve the article. Pam Peck seconded the motion. Lucien Gravel called the question. Pam Peck seconded the motion.
Voice vote. Motion passed.

Article 7. To transact any other proper business.

Lucien Gravel thanked voters for allowing him to serve them as a School Director. Belinda Clegg reminded everyone about the Rabies Clinic on March 28th from 4:30-5:30 pm at the Town Garage. Kate Wilson was thanked for her time on the board. Belinda Clegg made the motion to adjourn. Robert Harris seconded the motion.

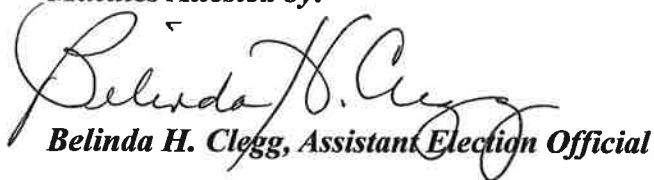
Voice vote. Motion carried.

Wolcott School District Meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m..

Respectfully Submitted,


Linda J. Martin, Town Clerk

Minutes Attested by:


Belinda H. Clegg, Assistant Election Official