

MINUTES
of the Annual Town Meeting
for the Town of Wolcott, Vermont
March 1, 2016

The legal voters of the Town of Wolcott, Vermont are hereby warned to meet at the Wolcott Elementary School in said Town on March 1, 2016 at nine o'clock in the forenoon to act upon any of the following articles of business not involving voting by Australian Ballot.

Polls will open at the Wolcott Elementary School on March 1, 2016 to vote in the Presidential Primary and to vote on Article 9. Australian ballot to begin at eight o'clock in the forenoon and to close at seven o'clock in the afternoon.

Town Moderator, Joe Hester-Ingram opened the meeting at 9:05 am. Senator John Rodgers spoke. Cornelius Reed Jr. led us with a pledge of allegiance. Joe made some announcements.

Annual Town Meeting

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

Harvey Reed nominated Joe Hester-Ingram. Cornelius Reed, Jr. seconded the nomination.

Joe Hester-Ingram elected moderator for one year.

The reading of the Warning was waived by the voters on a voice vote..

Article 2. To elect a Town Clerk for the Town for three years.

Pam Peck nominated Linda Martin. Harvey Reed seconded the nomination.

Belinda Clegg called for nominations to cease. Harvey Reed seconded the motion.

Linda Martin elected Town Clerk for a three year term.

Article 3. To receive and act upon the various reports of the Town officials.

Robert Harris motioned to accept the article. Pam Peck seconded the motion.

Article 3 passed on a voice vote.

Article 4. To elect the following Town officers as required by law:

Town Treasurer - three year term

Harvey Reed nominated Linda Martin. Belinda seconded the nomination.

Linda Reeve called the question. Bernard Earle seconded the motion.

Linda Martin elected Town Treasurer for a three year term.

Selectboard – three year term

Belinda Clegg nominated Richard Lee. Richard Gravel seconded the nomination.
Michael Shedd nominated Thad Shedd. Steve Perkins seconded the nomination.

Harvey Reed called for nominations to cease. Cornelius Reed seconded the motion.
Paper Ballot = 75 ballots cast – 38 to win

Richard Lee – 50

Thad Shedd – 21

Spoiled – 2

Blank - 2

Richard Lee elected to the Selectboard for a term of three years.

Selectboard – two year term

Belinda Clegg nominated Kim Gravel. Pam Peck seconded the nomination.
Michael Shedd nominated Thad Shedd. Amy Coolbeth seconded the nomination.

Harvey Reed called for nominations to cease. Cornelius Reed seconded the motion
Paper Ballot = 78 ballots cast – 40 to win

Kim Gravel – 43

Thad Shedd – 34

Spoiled - 1

Kim Gravel elected to the Selectboard for a term of two years.

Lister – three year term

Tom Martin nominated Wayne Keller. Belinda Clegg seconded the nomination

Peter Burgess called for nominations to cease. Bernard Earle seconded the motion.
Voice Vote -passed.

The Clerk was instructed to cast one vote for Wayne Keller.
Wayne Keeler elected to be a Lister for a term of three years.

Town Agent to Deed Real Estate – one year term

Dolly Holton nominated Dan Noyes. Holly Page-Bjerke seconded the nomination
Peter Burgess called for nominations to cease. Alyssa Martin seconded the motion.
Voice Vote -passed.

Dan Noyes elected to be Town Agent to Deed Real Estate for a term of one year.

Town Agent to Prosecute and Defend Suits – one year term

Dolly Holton nominated Dan Noyes. Jay Bohannon seconded the nomination.
Peter Burgess called for nominations to cease. Jason Ventrice seconded the motion.
Voice Vote -passed.

Dan Noyes elected to be Town Agent to Prosecute and Defend Suits for a term of one year.

Library Trustee – five year term

Holly Page-Bjerke nominated Megan Roy. Amy Coolbeth seconded the nomination.
Peter Burgess called for nominations to cease. Adam Berg seconded the motion.
Voice Vote -passed.

Megan Roy elected to be a Library Trustee for a term of five years.

Library Trustee – two year term

Ryan Bjerke nominated Koni Stoddard. Amy Coolbeth seconded the nomination.
Peter Burgess called for nominations to cease. Cornelius Reed seconded the motion.
Voice Vote -passed.

Koni Stoddard elected to be a Library Trustee for a term of two years.

Cemetery Commissioner – five year term

Cornelius Reed nominated Everton Graves. Harvey Reed seconded the nomination.
Peter Burgess called for nominations to cease. Cornelius Reed seconded the motion.
Voice Vote -passed.

Everton Graves elected to be a Cemetery Commissioner for a term of five years.

Grand Juror – one year term

Belinda Clegg nominated John Randal Pratt. Dan Noyes seconded the nomination.

Brian Burgess called for nominations to cease. Harvey Reed seconded the motion.
Voice Vote -passed.
John Randall Pratt elected to be Grand Juror for a term of one year.

Article 5. Shall the Town publish a list of delinquent taxpayers as of December 31st and a list of any other delinquent accounts due to the Town in the town report?

Peter Burgess made the motion to accept the article as read. Pam Peck seconded the motion. Discussion. Peter Burgess made the motion to call the question. Article 5 passed on a voice vote.

Article 6. Shall the voters appropriate \$195,759.00 (.53% increase from 2015-2016) to the Lamoille County Sheriff's Department to pay for road patrol?

Belinda Clegg made the motion to accept the article as read. Pam Peck seconded the motion. Belinda Clegg made the motion to call the question. Article 6 passed on a voice vote.

Article 7. Shall the voters appropriate \$38,974.00 (-12% increase from 2015-2016) to the Lamoille County Sheriff's Department to pay for dispatch?

accept the article as read. Bill Cotten seconded the motion. Peter Burgess made the motion to call the question. Article 7 passed on a voice vote.

Article 8. Shall the voters appropriate \$21,370.00 to the following social service agencies, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 2691?

- \$1,200 - Central VT Adult Basic Education
- 400 - Central VT Community Action Council, Inc
- 1,500 - Central VT Council on Aging
- 500 - Hardwick Area Community Action, Inc
- 5,679 - Hardwick Emergency Rescue Squad
- 400 - Home Share Now
- 500 - Justice for Dogs
- 600 - Lamoille Community Food Share
- 1,031 - Lamoille County Planning Commission
- 1,082 - Lamoille County Special Investigations Unit
- 750 - Lamoille Economic Development Corp
- 500 - Lamoille Family Center
- 5,028 - Lamoille Home Health & Hospice
- 1,000 - Meals on Wheels of Lamoille County
- 200 - Prevent Child Abuse of Vermont
- 200 - Retired & Senior Volunteer Program
- 1,000 - Rural Community Transportation, Inc

Peter Burgess made the motion to accept the article as read. Amy Coolbeth seconded the motion. Peter Burgess made the motion to call the question. Article 8 passed on a voice vote.

Article 9. Shall the Town of Wolcott in an amount not to exceed \$326,004.00 borrow through debt instrument other than bonds, for a term of 10 years for the purchase of new 2017 Fire Pumper truck, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 1786 a (c) ?

Notice is hereby given that Article 9 will be voted on by Australian ballot. The Polls will open at 8:00 o'clock in the forenoon on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 and will close at 7:00 in the afternoon.

Australian Ballot Results -392 ballots cast

In Favor - 240

Opposed - 146

Blank - 6

Article 9 passed by Australian ballot.

Article 10. 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, 2016

Second installment to be paid on or before May 15, 2017

(32 VSA 4871)

Harvey Reed made the motion to accept the article as read. Linda Reeve seconded the motion. Peter Burgess made the motion to call the question. Article 10 passed on a voice vote.

Article 11. Shall the voters authorize total general fund expenditure for operating expenses of \$1,254,039 of which \$939,429 shall be raised in taxes and \$314,610 by non-tax revenues?

Belinda Clegg made the motion to accept the article as read. Harvey Reed seconded the motion. Alton Smith called the question. Cindy Lowell seconded the motion. Article 11 passed on a voice vote.

Article 12. To transact any other non-binding business.

Cindy Lowell - Village - concern about buck's buildings

Plans for old schoolhouse at town office compound
T-Ball sign ups

Article 13. Motion to Adjourn

Robert Harris made the motion to adjourn at 10:52 a.m. Harvey Reed seconded the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda J. Martin

Linda J. Martin, Town Clerk

Minutes Attested By:

WOLCOTT TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2016

Meeting opened at 11:05 a.m. by Moderator Joe Hester-Ingram.

**Article 1. To elect the following school district officers for the ensuring year:
School District Meeting Moderator**

Bill Cotten nominated Joe Hester-Ingram. Pam Peck seconded the nomination. Lucien Gravel called for nominations to cease. Bill Cotton seconded the motion
Voice vote - passed.

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

District Clerk

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

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

District Treasurer

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

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

Alternate District Treasurer

Linda martin nominated Belinda Clegg. Penny Hester-Ingram seconded the nomination. Peter Burgess called for nominations to cease. Pam Peck seconded the motion.
Voice vote 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.

Belinda Clegg nominated Peter Burgess. Pam Peck seconded the nomination. Jackie Burgess called for nominations to cease. Belinda Clegg seconded the motion. Voice vote passed.

Peter Burgess elected School Director for a term of three year.

School Director for a term of two years.

Michael Davidson nominated Rebecca Ventrice. Pam Peck seconded the nomination. Peter Burgess called for nominations to cease. Belinda Clegg seconded the motion. Voice vote passed.

Rebecca Ventrice 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**

Belinda Clegg made the motion to accept the article as read. Peter Burgess seconded the motion. Robert Harris made the motion to amend the article to:

**School Board Chair and members \$500.00/yr District Treasurer \$850.00/yr
District Clerk \$250.00/yr Alternate District Treasurer \$ 25.00/pay
period as needed**

Discussion. Belinda Clegg made the motion to call the question. Peter Burgess seconded the motion.

Voice vote on Amended article was defeated.
Vote on original Article 3 passed on a voice vote.

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. Belinda Clegg seconded the motion. A lot of discussion. Belinda Clegg made the motion to call the question. Peter Burgess seconded the motion. Article 4 passed on a voice vote.

Article 5. Shall the voters of the School District approve the school board to expend \$5,022,180.00 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 \$14,895.65 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 2.3% 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 1, 2016 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.

Australian Ballot Results –419 ballots cast

In Favor – 233

Opposed – 148

Blank – 11

Article 5 passed 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.

Bill Cotten motioned to approve the article. Linda Reeve seconded the motion. Article 6 passed on a voice vote.

Article 7. To see if the voters of the School District will authorize the School board to transfer half of any unobligated year end fund balance as of June 30, 2016 to the reserve fund established pursuant to Title 24, Section 2804 to be used for unbudgeted secondary tuition expenditures.

Linda Reeve motioned to approve the article. Bill Cotten seconded the motion.

Article 7 passed on a voice vote.

Article 8. To see if the voters of the School District will authorize the School Board to transfer half of any unobligated year end fund balance as of June 30, 2016 to the reserve fund established pursuant to Title 24, Section 2804 to be used for building maintenance and repairs.

Peter Burgess motioned to approve the article. Linda Reeve seconded the motion. Article 8 passed on a voice vote.

Article 9. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Peter Burgess motioned to adjourn. The School District Meeting adjourned at 12:14 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda J. Martin

Linda J. Martin, Town Clerk

Minutes Attested By: