

**MINUTES**  
**of the Annual Town School District Meeting**  
**for the Town of Wolcott, Vermont**  
**March 5, 2019**

School Moderator, Joe Hester-Ingram, called the Wolcott School District meeting to order at 11:18 a.m.

Reading of the School Warning was waived by the voters.

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

**School District Meeting Moderator - one year term**

Belinda Clegg nominated Joe Hester-Ingram. Peter Burgess seconded the nomination. Nominations were closed.

Voice vote - passed.

**Joe Hester-Ingram elected as Moderator for a term of one year.**

**District Clerk - one year term**

Belinda Clegg nominated herself. Deb Edwards seconded the nomination. Gordon Young moved to close nominations.

Voice vote - passed.

**Belinda Clegg elected as District Clerk for a term of one year.**

**District Treasurer - one year term**

Peter Burgess nominated Belinda Clegg. Deb Edwards seconded the nomination. Nominations were closed.

Voice vote - passed.

**Belinda Clegg elected as District Treasurer for a term of one year.**

**Alternate District Treasurer - one year term**

Belinda Clegg nominated Deb Clifton. Kim Gravel seconded the nomination. Nominations were closed.

Voice vote - passed.

**Deb Clifton elected as Alternate District Treasurer - one year term.**

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

**School Director - three year term**

Belinda Clegg nominated Gordon Young. Seconded by Jan Roy. Nell-Marie Rowland moved to close nominations.

Voice vote - passed.

**Gordon Young elected as School Director for a term of three years.**

**School Director - two year term**

Belinda Clegg nominated Peter Burgess. Seconded by Eric Furs. Gordon Young moved to close nominations.

Voice vote- passed.

**Peter Burgess elected as School Director for a term of two years.**

**School Director - one year term remaining on a three year term**

Belinda Clegg nominated Marquis Houle. Seconded by Peter Burgess. Peter Burgess moved to close nominations.

Voice vote - passed.

**Marquis Houle elected as School Director for one year term remaining on a three year term.**

**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**

Peter Burgess motioned to accept the article. Deb Edwards seconded the motion. No discussion followed. Joe Hester-Ingram called the question. Voice vote - passed.

**Article 4. To hear and act upon the reports of the Wolcott Town School District officers and directors.**

Bill Cotten motioned to approve the article. Amy Davidson seconded the motion. No discussion followed. Peter Burgess motioned to call the question.

Voice vote - passed.

**Article 5. Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$4,785,080.00 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 \$16,937.00 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 5.53% 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 5th, 2019 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.**

No action required.

Australian ballot results - 158 ballots cast

Yes - 94

No - 64

Article 5 approved by Australian ballot.

**Article 6: To see if the voters of the school district will authorize the school board to transfer \$183,707.00 of unobligated year end fund balances as of June 30, 2018 to the reserve fund established pursuant to Title 24, Section 2804 to be used for building maintenance and repairs.**

Bill Cotten moved to approve the article. Seconded by Kim Gravel. Peter Burgess motioned to allow John Smith, Jr., Chief Financial Officer for the Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union to speak. No objection was raised. In response to a question, Mr. Smith stated that the current balance in the reserve fund is \$110,004. Gordon Young stated the school building is ancient and the fund is needed for capital improvements, although there is no concrete plan at this time to expend monies. To use this fund for any other purpose would require coming back before the voters. Amy Davidson called the question.

Voice vote - passed.

**Article 7. To determine whether to authorize the Board of School Directors, pursuant to the provisions of 16 V.S.A. Section 563(10) & (11)(C), to provide mailed notice to residents of the availability of the Annual Report and proposed school budget in lieu of distributing the Annual Report and proposed budget.**

Bessie Martin moved to approve the article. Seconded by Kim Gravel. Mr. Smith stated the idea is to save money and streamline the process. Comments included advocating going paperless when possible, and also considering those without Internet or the ability to get to the Town Office. The Warning will still appear in the Town Report and will be in the newspaper. Gordon Young called the question. After not being able to certify the voice vote, the Moderator asked for a hand count on the vote. Voting: Yes - 22; No - 19. Article 7 passes.

**Article 8: To see if the voters of the town will authorize the school board to borrow money in anticipation of state revenues.**

Bill Cotten moved to approve the article. Peter Burgess seconded the motion. The question was called.

Voice vote - passed.

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

Attendance was encouraged for the April 12, 2019 fundraiser spaghetti dinner for the sixth grade class. The class plans to attend Nature's Classroom in New York this year.

Bill Cotten made the motion to adjourn. No objection.

Voice vote - passed

Wolcott School District Meeting adjourned at 11:56 p.m.

***Respectfully Submitted,***

***Linda J. Martin, Town Clerk***

***Minutes Attested by:***

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***Election Official***