

DRAFT/UNAPPROVED
TOWN OF WILMINGTON
2019 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MINUTES
MARCH 5, 2019

The Annual Town and Town School District meeting was called to order by Moderator Robert Fisher at 10:02AM.

At 10:02am the Moderator declared the Town Meeting open. Moderator led the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were Moderator Robert Fisher, Selectboard members Tom Fitzgerald, John Gannon (arrived 11:40am), Sarah Fisher, Vince Rice, Ann Manwaring; Town Manager Scott Tucker; Police Chief Matthew Murano; Fire Chief Scott Moore; Road Supervisor Bill Hunt; Town Treasurer and Finance Officer Christine Richter; Town Clerk Susie Haughwout; members of the Board of Civil Authority and approximately 65 voters and members of the public. The Moderator made a few announcements and went over the requirements for participating and voting at Town Meeting and asked those who are not registered voters to identify themselves.

The Moderator asked for unanimous consent of the body to allow members of the Town Administration and Staff who are not Wilmington voters, to speak during the meeting. Body gave consent.

The Moderator asked for the Body's consent to waive the full reading of the Town Meeting Warning. **VOICE VOTE** – ayes had it.

ARTICLE 1: To elect all Town and Town School District Officers required by law and the vote of the town. (Australian Ballot – Polls open 7:00 A.M. until 7:00 P.M.)

ARTICLE 2: Shall the Town vote to accept the Town Report?

ARTICLE 3: To see what date or dates will be set for the payment of taxes (8/30/19 and 2/28/20)?

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town vote to allocate the State per parcel payment estimated to be \$26,500 to the Reappraisal Reserve Fund?

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$278,452 to fund the Reappraisal Reserve Fund?

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,028,917 and \$233,000 by prior year surplus to care for the expenses and liabilities of the General Fund for fiscal year 2019 (7/1/19 to 6/30/20) ?

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,482,962 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the Town Road Budget for fiscal year 2019 (7/1/19 to 6/30/20)?

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate an additional \$250, for a total of \$750, to the Windham County Humane Society whose purpose is to ensure the safety and well-being of animals as well as enhancing the relationship between individuals and pets through adoption, education, advocacy, compassion and promotion of animal welfare?

- ARTICLE 9:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate an additional \$5,000, for a total of \$10,000, to SASH whose purpose is to coordinate the resources of social service agencies, community health providers and nonprofit housing organizations to support Vermonters who choose to live independently at home?
- ARTICLE 10:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to fund Deerfield Valley Rescue whose purpose is to provide prehospital emergency medical care to residents in the Towns of Wilmington, Dover (East and West), Searsburg, Somerset and parts of Marlboro and Stratton?
- ARTICLE 11:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$230,000 to fund the Highway Town Road Equipment Capital Fund?
- ARTICLE 12:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$35,000 to fund the Bridge Rehabilitation Account?
- ARTICLE 13:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$125,000 to fund the Fire Department Equipment Account?
- ARTICLE 14:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 to fund the Fire House Capital Fund?
- ARTICLE 15:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to fund the Memorial Hall Capital Fund?
- ARTICLE 16:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$12,000 to fund the Library Capital Reserve Fund?
- ARTICLE 17:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to fund the Town Hall Capital Fund?
- ARTICLE 18:** Shall the Town vote to give the Selectboard general authority to enter into tax stabilization contracts, as application is made, with owners, lessees, bailees, or operators of commercial or industrial property, for a period of up to ten years, pursuant to 24 VSA § 2741(b)(1)?
- ARTICLE 19:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 to fund the Police Equipment Capital Fund?
- ARTICLE 20:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 to fund the Transfer Station Capital Fund?
- ARTICLE 21:** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$15,000 to fund the Public Lands and Fences Capital Fund for the purpose of repairing River Bank Park?
- ARTICLE 22:** Shall the Town vote to expend \$60,000 from the FY18 surplus to fund the current FY19 expenditures?
- ARTICLE 23:** To transact any other non-binding business.

ARTICLE 2: MOTION to accept the Town Report made by Fred Houston, seconded by John Howe.

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it unanimously. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 3: MOTION to set the dates of 8/30/19 and 2/28/20 for the payment of taxes made by Elizabeth McEwen, seconded by Merrill Mundell.

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it unanimously. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 4: MOTION to allocate the State per parcel payment estimated to be \$26,500 to the Reappraisal Reserve Fund made by Sarah Fisher, seconded by Fred Houston.

SPEAKERS: Bill Adams, Sarah Fisher, Barker Willard III, Christine Richter

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 5: MOTION to raise and appropriate \$278,452 to fund the Reappraisal Reserve Fund made by Sarah Fisher, seconded by Tom Fitzgerald.

SPEAKERS: Cliff Duncan, Sarah Fisher, John Redd, Bill Adams, Adam Grinold, Tom Fitzgerald, Ann Manwaring, Barker Willard III, Bill Spirka

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 6: MOTION to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,028,917 and \$233,000 by prior year surplus to care for the expenses and liabilities of the General Fund for fiscal year 2019 (7/1/19 to 6/30/20) made by Tom Fitzgerald with a **Friendly Amendment** adding words “to appropriate” before the figure of \$233,000, seconded Merrill Mundell.

POINT OF ORDER: Barker Willard III asked why the Moderator was looking only to the Selectboard for motions on the Articles and not looking to anyone in the Body. Moderator explained that with regard to main motions, the Selectboard is responsible for creating the Warned Articles. Moderator will look to the Selectboard for the main motion and then to the Body for amendments.

MODERATOR asked for the Body’s consent to the **Friendly Amendment**. **VOICE VOTE** – ayes had it.

NEW MAIN MOTION to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,028,917 and to appropriate \$233,000 by prior year surplus to care for the expenses and liabilities of the General Fund for fiscal year 2019 (7/1/2019 to 6/30/2019).

SPEAKERS: Meg Streeter, Tom Fitzgerald, Christine Richter, Bill Spirka, Adam Grinold, Ann Manwaring, Bob McConnin, Barker Willard III, Scott Tucker, Ann Manwaring, Cliff Duncan, Ralph Staib, Chief Murano

MOTION TO AMEND to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,088,917 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the General Fund for fiscal year 2019 (7/1/2019 to 6/30/2019) made by Barker Willard, seconded by Mark O’Maley.

SPEAKERS: Barker Willard III, Christine Richter, Susie Haughwout, Tom Fitzgerald

MOTION TO AMEND WITHDRAWN by maker Willard and seconder O’Maley.

MOTION TO END DEBATE made by Merrill Mundell, seconded by Ralph Staib.

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it by 2/3 majority. **MOTION TO END DEBATE CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

MAIN MOTION to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,028,917 and to appropriate \$233,000 by prior year surplus to care for the expenses and liabilities of the General Fund for fiscal year 2019 (7/1/2019 to 6/30/2019).

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 7: MOTION to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,482,962 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the Town Road Budget for fiscal year 2019 (7/1/19 to 6/30/20) made by Tom Fitzgerald, seconded by Claudette Hollenbeck.

SPEAKERS: John Redd

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 8: MOTION to raise and appropriate an additional \$250, for a total of \$750, to the Windham County Humane Society whose purpose is to ensure the safety and well-being of animals as well as enhancing the relationship between individuals and pets through adoption, education, advocacy, compassion and promotion of animal welfare made by Ann Manwaring, seconded by Claudette Hollenbeck.

POINT OF ORDER: Fred Houston why motion was worded this way, how much is accounted for in the general fund article? Motion maker Manwaring offered a **Friendly Amendment** “to raise and appropriate an additional \$250 more than the \$500 already in the general fund budget, for a total of \$750...” Secoder Hollenbeck consented.

NEW MAIN MOTION to raise and appropriate an additional \$250 more than the \$500 already in the general fund budget, for a total of \$750, to the Windham County Humane Society whose purpose is to ensure the safety and well-being of animals as well as enhancing the relationship between individuals and pets through adoption, education, advocacy, compassion and promotion of animal welfare.

SPEAKERS: Ann Manwaring, Dr. Susan Kelly

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 9: MOTION to raise and appropriate an additional \$5,000, for a total of \$10,000, to SASH whose purpose is to coordinate the resources of social service agencies, community health providers and nonprofit housing organizations to support Vermonters who choose to live independently at home made by Ann Manwaring, seconded by Selma Schiffer.

SPEAKERS: Ann Manwaring, Claudette Hollenbeck, Elizabeth McEwen, Stephanie Lane

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

MODERATOR asked the Body if they wished to yield the floor to hear from Senator Brian Campion and Representative John Gannon. **VOICE VOTE** – ayes had it.

RECESS AT 11:43AM

RECONVENE 1:05PM

ARTICLE 10: MOTION to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to fund Deerfield Valley Rescue whose purpose is to provide prehospital emergency medical care to residents in the Towns of Wilmington, Dover (East and West), Searsburg, Somerset and parts of Marlboro and Stratton made by Ann Manwaring, seconded by Vince Rice.

SPEAKERS: Merrill Mundell, Joseph Cincotta

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 11: MOTION to raise and appropriate \$230,000 to fund the Highway Town Road Equipment Capital Fund made by Tom Fitzgerald, seconded by Len Chapman.

MOTION TO AMEND to raise and appropriate \$75,000 made by Barker Willard III, seconded by Joseph Cincotta.

SPEAKERS: Barker Willard III

VOICE VOTE – Nos had it. **AMENDMENT FAILED – SO VOTED.**

MAIN MOTION to raise and appropriate \$230,000 to fund the Highway Town Road Equipment Capital Fund.

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 12: MOTION to raise and appropriate \$35,000 to fund the Bridge Rehabilitation Account made by Tom Fitzgerald, seconded by Susie Haughwout.

SPEAKERS: Lynne Matthews, Tom Fitzgerald

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 13: MOTION to raise and appropriate \$125,000 to fund the Fire Department Equipment Account made by Vince Rice, seconded by Susie Haughwout.

SPEAKERS: Cliff Duncan, Scott Moore

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 14: MOTION to raise and appropriate \$5,000 to fund the Fire House Capital Fund made by Vince Rice, seconded by Susie Haughwout.

SPEAKERS: Scott Tucker, Scott Moore, Barker Willard III, Tom Fitzgerald, Joseph Cincotta

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 15: MOTION to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to fund the Memorial Hall Capital Fund made by Sarah Fisher, seconded by Susie Haughwout.

SPEAKERS: Cliff Duncan, Sarah Fisher

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 16: MOTION to raise and appropriate \$12,000 to fund the Library Capital Reserve Fund made by Sarah Fisher, seconded by Bettina Krampetz.

MODERATOR asked if the Body would consent to allow the Library Director to speak. **VOICE VOTE** – ayes had it.

SPEAKERS: Allison Maynard

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 17: MOTION to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to fund the Town Hall Capital Fund made by Sarah Fisher, seconded by Susie Haughwout.

SPEAKERS: Sarah Fisher

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 18: MOTION to give the Selectboard general authority to enter into tax stabilization contracts as application is made, with owners, lessees, bailees, or operators of commercial or industrial property, for a period of up to ten years, pursuant to 24 VSA § 2741(b)(1) made by John Gannon, seconded by Susie Haughwout.

SPEAKERS: John Gannon, Merrill Mundell, Scott Tucker, Christine Richter, Cliff Duncan, Linda Brophy, Susie Haughwout, Gary Henry

MOTION TO AMEND made by Gary Henry to move the words “for up to 10 years” from the end of the sentence to after the word “contracts”, seconded by Susie Haughwout.

VOICE VOTE – Ayes had it. **AMENDMENT CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

MAIN MOTION to give the Selectboard general authority to enter into tax stabilization contracts for a period of up to 10 years as application is made, with owners, lessees, bailees, or operators of commercial or industrial property, pursuant to 24 VSA § 2741(b)(1).

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it unanimously. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 19: MOTION to raise and appropriate \$10,000 to fund the Police Equipment Capital Fund made by Vince Rice, seconded by Susie Haughwout.

SPEAKERS: none

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it unanimously. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 20: MOTION to raise and appropriate \$5,000 to fund the Transfer Station Capital Fund made by Ann Manwaring, seconded by Susie Haughwout.

SPEAKERS: Nicki Steel, Cliff Duncan, Ann Manwaring, Merrill Mundell, Lynne Matthews

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 21: MOTION to raise and appropriate \$15,000 to fund the Public Lands and Fences Capital Fund for the purpose of repairing River Bank Park made by Tom Fitzgerald, seconded by Jean Cincotta.

SPEAKERS: Fred Skwirut, Tom Fitzgerald

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 22: MOTION to expend \$60,000 from the FY18 surplus to fund the current FY19 expenditures made by John Gannon, seconded by Susie Haughwout.

SPEAKERS: Cliff Duncan, Tom Fitzgerald

MOTION TO END DEBATE made by Claudette Hollenbeck, seconded by Bettina Krampetz.

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it by 2/3 majority. **MOTION TO END DEBATE CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

MAIN MOTION

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it unanimously. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

ARTICLE 23: MOTION transacted non-binding business

SPEAKERS: Nicki Steel, Linda Brophy Gary Henry, Allison Maynard, Susie Haughwout, Scott Tucker

VOICE VOTE – ayes had it unanimously. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

MOTION TO ADJOURN FLOOR MEETING: made by Cliff Duncan, seconded by Susie Haughwout.

VOICE VOTE – Ayes had it. **MOTION CARRIED – SO VOTED.**

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:20PM. Australian Ballot voting continued until 7PM.

TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION AND BELIEF, THESE MINUTES ARE A TRUE AND OFFICIAL RECORD OF ALL ACTION TAKEN AT THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD, MARCH 5, 2019.

Prepared on: March 7, 2019



ATTEST:

Susan Joy Haughwout, Wilmington Town Clerk

DATE: 3/7/2019