

Selectboard Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2023

Present: Tom Fitzgerald, John Gannon (zoom), Sarah Fisher, Tony Tribuno **Absent:** Vince Rice

Others Present: Scott Tucker, Jessica DeFrancesco, Matt Murano, Marshall Dix, Christine and Dennis Richter, Debby Kingsley, Scott Moore, Therese Lounsbury, Doug Wheeler, Randy Capitani

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

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: To see if the Town will vote to accept the Town Report.

Article 3: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,626,218 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the General Fund for fiscal year 2024 (7/1/23 to 6/30/2024)?

Article 4: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,499,549 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the Town Road Budget for fiscal year 2024 (7/1/23 to 6/30/2024)?

- Doug Wheeler asked if enough was put in as materials may be increasing again this coming year.

Article 5: Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate \$750 to fund SafePlace whose purpose is to help children and their families begin the process of healing after a child has been a victim of sexual abuse or egregious physical abuse; conduct quality investigations; reduce stress and trauma to the victim; and protect the victim in the community.

- New organization, met with the board for this request.

Article 6: Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000 to fund Grace Cottage whose purpose is to provide acute and rehabilitative care.

- New organization, met with the board for this request. Many residents use this facility for their health care.

Article 7: Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate \$3,000 to fund SVMC whose purpose is to provide acute and rehabilitative care.

- New organization, met with the board for this request. Many residents use this facility for their health care.

Article 8: Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate \$3,000 to Gathering Place whose purpose is to serve the elders and adults with disabilities of the Windham County, helping to minimize the stress of providing care at home and an affordable alternative to nursing facility placement.

Article 9: Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate an additional \$450, for a total of \$800, to fund Senior Solutions whose purpose is to promote the well-being and dignity of older adults, helping them to age in the place of their choice, with the support they need and the opportunity for meaningful relationships and active engagement in their community.

Article 10: Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate an additional \$10,000, for a total of \$30,000, 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 \$7,000 to Kids in the Country Childcare whose purpose is to provide before and after school care, a morning preschool program for children aged 3–5 with the option of extended hours for working families, an infant and toddler program, as well as, summer enrichment activities for all age groups.

- This is a comeback request. They received funding years ago and are coming back.

Article 12: Shall the Town vote to allocate the State per parcel payment estimated to be \$26,792 to the Reappraisal Reserve Fund?

Article 13: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$180,000 to fund the Highway Town Road Equipment Capital Fund?

Article 14: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$160,000 to fund the Bridge Capital Fund?

Article 15: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to fund Highway Building Capital Fund?

Article 16: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$150,000 to fund the Fire Department Equipment Capital Fund?

Article 17: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 to fund the (old)Fire House Capital Fund?

Article 18: Shall the Town vote to rename the Fire House Capital Fund to Old Firehouse Capital Account, for the purpose of maintaining the building at 18 Beaver St?

Article 19: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to fund the Memorial Hall Capital Fund?

Article 20: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$12,000 to fund the Library Capital Reserve Fund?

Article 21: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to fund the Town Hall Capital Fund?

Article 22: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to fund the Police Equipment Capital Fund?

Article 23: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 to fund the Transfer Station Capital Fund?

Article 24: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to fund the Public Lands and Fences Capital Fund?

Article 25: Shall the voters authorize the elimination of the office of Town Lister in accordance with 17 V.S.A. §2651c(b)(1) and replace it with a professionally qualified assessor who shall have the same powers, discharge the same duties, proceed in the discharge thereof in the same manner, and be subject to the same liabilities as are prescribed for listers or the board of listers under the provision of Title 32?

Article 26: Shall the Town vote to expend \$260,000 from the FY21 surplus to fund the Planning and Acquisition Capital Fund for the purpose of a new Town Hall?

Article 27: Shall the Town vote to exempt from town and school taxes, Social Lodge #38 F. & A.M. pursuant to the provisions of Vermont Statutes Annotated Title 32, Section 3840?

Article 28: Shall the Town vote to exempt from town and school taxes, Deerfield Valley Rescue, Inc. at 22 Stowe Hill Rd, pursuant to the provisions of Vermont Statutes Annotated Title 32, Section 3840?

Article 29: Shall the Town vote to collect taxes on August 25, 2023 and February 23, 2024?

Article 30: Shall the Town adopt all budget articles by Australian ballot pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2680(c)?

Article 31: Shall the Town vote on all public questions by Australian ballot pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2680(d)?

- These last two articles are in hopes to create more voter participation.

Article 32: To transact any non-binding business.

- Doug Wheeler stated he hasn't been able to get ahold of the representative to discuss the carbon tax.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica DeFrancesco, Administrative Assistant

Approved by the Wilmington Selectboard:

Thomas Fitzgerald, Chair

John Gannon, Vice Chair

Vince Rice, Clerk

Sarah Fisher

Tony Tribuno