

Town of Wilmington

2026 Annual Town Meeting Held in the Gym at the Old School Enrichment Center (OSEC)

Minutes

March 3, 2026 – 10:00am

Town Moderator Robert Fisher called the meeting to order at 10:00am with approximately 82 voters in attendance. He then recognized Scout Daltyn Hurley from Scout Troop #461 to post the colors and lead the Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by a moment of silence for those friends and neighbors who are no longer with us.

The meeting was then suspended for updates from the following legislators: Senator Seth Bongartz, Senator Rob Plunkett, and Representative Emily Carris-Duncan.

Representative Emily Carris-Duncan started with a presentation for Buddy Hayford. Both Senators and Representatives Emily Carris-Duncan and Laura Sibilia sponsored a Resolution in honor of Leland “Buddy” Hayford’s 500th career win, Vermont Coach of the Year, and the longest serving Athletic Director in Vermont. His list of accomplishments was read, and Buddy was presented with a certificate.

Senator Seth Bongartz (10:06am), Chair of the Senate Education Committee, gave his update: he shared that the current education funding system is byzantine; double digit school spending; have to do something to control the rate of increase in spending; need foundational formula; an urban/rural divide is forming – trying to bring many voices together. (88 voters now in attendance) Voter Bill Adams commented that it needs to be on individuals and not on property. Senator Bongartz said he was not disagreeing, but it was created that way because the property base is more stable. He feels the legislature needs to find the money to offset the spending because the current buy down is not sustainable – need that foundational formula and structure underneath. Voter Barker Willard, III, asked if they could contain the spending in the districts and not burden other areas; perhaps we could attract more people to the area; is there a possibility of changing tax codes? Stop with the salt on the road – can reduce spending right there – State trucks throwing salt when not needed then plowing it off and rusting vehicles in the process. Senator Bongartz replied that there were no committees yet concerning tax codes; the Brigham decision makes it clear that we must have comparable opportunities for all. Voter Cliff Duncan agreed that they need to get a hold of the education spending as well as the formula and stated that the County Sheriff’s initiative to place property tax for a countywide policing system if allowed, will end up affecting Wilmington. Senator Bongartz replied that it is all voluntary participation, will not affect Wilmington, it will help communities without police forces, and those communities are already paying the Sheriff’s Department for coverage. Voter Ann Manwaring commented that the town already pays property tax for the court systems and sheriff and was sorry to hear that Seth had voted for it. In fifty odd years, she has never seen a side judge come and talk to us about the taxes they are raising out of our communities.

Senator Rob Plunkett (10:26am), instructed the room on how a bill becomes a law. (92 voters now in attendance) He then shared that 399 Bills have been introduced in the House with only 25 having passed the House; 171 Bills were introduced in the Senate with only 11 passing the Senate; 3 Bills have passed both House & Senate (one was a holdover from last year) but nothing has been signed by the Governor. A lot of the work will happen next week. Senator Plunkett sits on the Institutions Committee. The Windham Pilot Project (the county-wide sheriff coverage) passed – does not affect Wilmington, only those that join. Senator Plunkett wants to hear from us with concerns on this, it does sunset in 5 years. In Agriculture, working on a Farm & Forestry security fund – recovery funds, and a giant miscellaneous Agriculture Bill that will look at municipal regulations of agriculture, tax exemptions, seed law, pesticide application, hemp regulations, and might even look at Current Use. Some of these may not be part of it because it has not been introduced yet. (109 voters now in attendance) Voter Doug Wheeler expressed concern about budget, and whether the State could plan for a level budget and not go over. Social Services spending is getting ahead of regular budget items. Senator Plunkett responded that they always stick to a budget, there is no deficit spending, and they are operating with much less

federal funding. It is a very lean budget year. (125 voters now in attendance) Voter Barker Willard, III, asked for more depth on Current Use. Senator Plunkett responded that it is in the proposal phase, and they are looking at changing the presumption that a farm building would be for agricultural use and not needing pre-approval. Voter Willard replied that his concern is about the properties being placed in Current Use and then are posted to limit access. Senator Plunkett replied that he has heard that concern from others.

Representative Emily Carris-Duncan sits on the Commerce & Economic Development Committee, and part of their conversations have been about career technical education. It was shared that Twin Valley Elementary School achieved a 12 on their state level assessment which shows that they are exceeding expectations. This news met with applause. Representative Carris-Duncan is also on the County Governance Task Force, which is looking at indirect costs that increase spending, things like health insurance costs, out-patient drug prescriptions, and housing concerns. There is also a concern about the opacity of property tax directives. Voter Kenneth Sklaw asked what was happening in the legislature to help with health care services, and about a luxury tax. Have they looked at what other states are doing? Can we partner with other states or look at things regionally? Representative Carris-Duncan stated that Vermont just won a federal grant to help with rural health services, looking at a contract for an Rx card that will help drive down costs, and there is a conversation regarding a luxury tax. Emily wanted to respond to the earlier salting comment – standards of salting, sanding, etc., are being reviewed as the transportation fund is in trouble. Voter Barker Willard, III, asked how the lowering of prescription costs will help when there is no competition amongst health insurance providers when there are only two in the state. Representative Carris-Duncan responded that that was outside her area of expertise but felt that attracting more people to the state by solving housing relief and increasing the pool of people for health care costs. It is a cyclical problem.

Moderator Robert Fisher recognized Chief Matthew Murano for one last presentation (10:50am). The Wilmington Police Department Community Service Award was given to Kathy Larsen for her above and beyond assistance with helping a community member.

The moderator announced (10:54am) that lunch will be offered in the Music Room by the Spanish Class, that Roberts Rules of Order will be followed, that amendments must be germane, to step up to the microphone and state your name, that a paper ballot can be asked for with the support of 6 other voters, that a 2/3 vote is needed to end discussion and non-registered voters wishing to speak will need the acceptance of the group. He then asked if the floor would allow the non-registered voters that are town employees to speak. The floor voted to allow.

The opening statement of the 2026 Warning for the Wilmington Annual Town Meeting was read by the moderator: The legal voters of the Town of Wilmington are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Old School Community Center (OSEC) in said Wilmington, Vermont, at 10 A.M. on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, to consider and act on the following articles not involving voting by Australian Ballot. (Voting for all Australian Ballot articles will be held at the OSEC in said Wilmington, Vermont, on March 3, 2026, from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm.) With unanimous consent, the floor chose to forego the reading of the entire warning. The Selectboard and Town employees seated at the front of the room introduced themselves. In attendance were Selectboard Members Tony Tribuno, Charlie Foster, Vince Rice, Tom Fitzgerald, John Lebron; Town Clerk Therese Lounsbury; Town Manager Scott Tucker; Finance Officer Christine Richter; Police Chief Matt Murano; Fire Chief Scott Moore; Highway Supervisor Marshall Dix.

Article 1: To elect all Town and Town School District Officers required by law AND to authorize the Town to obtain a general obligation bond, for the purpose of building a solar array on the Public Safety Facility rooftop (Australian Ballot - Polls open 7:00 A.M. until 7:00 P.M.)

Discussion: the Energy Committee proposed this initiative to the Selectboard and it was approved in a 3 to 2 vote; what will it add to the tax rate; costs will be shared; \$38,000 per year (not even a half penny to the tax rate); should have been two articles; will this interfere with radio system; solar and radio antennas can cause

interference; can it go elsewhere; do not vote for this; savings to power bills, panels on flat roofs are common, reviewing radio interference, estimates based on summer exposure, replaces \$30,000 annually; is the electricity rate high because it is zoned commercial; large building and heat pumps cause the electrical bill; 7-year return on investment, life of project is 25 years, goal is to save the taxpayers money; is engineer cost figured here and any radio interference change, over \$8 million in bonds out there now, come from other capital funds; low profile ballasted unit – does not permeate the roofing, IRS direct payback program will require a consultant to help recoup the incentive, consultant cost of \$12,000; radio interference needs to be addressed as lives are on the line, not opposed to solar; people already voting on this but there is a lot of opposing information that others are not hearing; bond vote must be by Australian Ballot by statute, had two informational meetings and postings in the newspaper; Fire Department has radio system separate from police, dispatched through Keene, New Hampshire, which is going through total system upgrade, not a flat roof – pitches storm runoff to the center; how to be asked to vote on this when don't have all the answers, fan of solar and saving money, but missing some of the bottom line mechanics; thanks to efforts of Energy Committee; what if approved are we committed – if defeated can there still be a discussion; it will be up to the Selectboard to move forward; it will be up to the vendor to convince us that the radio interference can be solved.

Speakers: John Lebron, Doug Wheeler, Christine Richter, Bill Adams, Helen Staib, Chief Murano, Joe Capozzi, Bob Bois, Carol Bois, Barker Willard, III, Scott Tucker, Joseph Carcich, Carol DeBarba, Bill Spirka, Gary Henry, Cliff Duncan, Bob McConnin, Tom Fitzgerald

Motion made to end debate made by Jerry Osler.

Voice Vote: ***Motion to cease debate carried.***

Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to accept the Town Report.

Motion to accept the Town Report made by Tom Fitzgerald and seconded by Vince Rice.

Debate (including but not limited to): looking at 7.5% increase in budget, follow page 29 for Capital Accounts; Social Services question.

Speakers: Barker Willard, III, Susan Rand

Voice Vote: ***Motion carried***

Article 3: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,528,001 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the General Fund for fiscal year 2027 (7/1/26 to 6/30/2027)?

(for reference – 11:44am, 99 voters present)

Motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,528,001 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the General Fund for fiscal year 2027 (7/1/26 to 6/30/2027) made by Tom Fitzgerald and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): what did Selectboard eliminate and not include; health insurance change, rehabbing trucks to save money, don't have potential employees waiting in the wings anymore; have had major changes listed in previous reports – that was helpful; why some salaries up by larger percentage than others; value of employees and changes in work load and duties, annual wage review, meet or exceed median rate, cost of living, highly competitive employment market; trends last two years – line 1 on page 18, grown \$1.1 million in two years – not sustainable, a lot flat lines thanked for but is that sustainable, line 170 should be called Health Insurance, most expensive health care in the country, not attracting people; page 15 – 1% Local Option Tax – page 16 – ADU & Route 100 Appraisal/Study; ADU – incentive program from Economic Development, Route 100 was money set aside to do appraisals on private property that have flooding consequences to town along the North Branch of the Deerfield River; Social Services have added \$123,000 to this budget; if ask for increase it is a separate article otherwise falls within the budget; reports from Social Services in the Town Report; does not show how the money was spent; page 60 – VMP – Veterans Memorial Park – all donations; page 29 – Revolving Loan – loans given to startup businesses that are repaid with interest; to get the total budget you would add up all the articles on the warning.

Speakers: Meg Streeter, Tom Fitzgerald, Nicki Steel, Scott Tucker, Cliff Duncan, Christine Richter, Ken Sklaw

Motion made to end debate made by John Boyd.

Voice Vote: ***Motion to cease debate carried***

Voice Vote: ***Motion carried***

Article 4: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,051,172 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the Town Road Budget for fiscal year 2027 (7/1/26 to 6/30/2027)?

Motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,051,172 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the Town Road Budget for fiscal year 2027 (7/1/26 to 6/30/2027) made by Tom Fitzgerald and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Motion to amend the motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,671,172 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the Town Road Budget for fiscal year 2027 (7/1/26 to 6/30/2027) made by John Boyd and seconded by Barker Willard, III.

Debate (including but not limited to):

Thanks to Marshall and his team for their work, set up capital fund for paving and the amendment removes the paving of Country Club Road and Green Road – both dead end roads, paved the dirt road and now have to salt the roads; some roads need repair, second homeowners pay a lot into our community and only benefit from roads and fire; highway department has to be able to do necessary road work; we're losing dirt off the roads, did dig down and rebuild those roads, pavement more cost efficient, many roads are 10 to 11 years before re-paved; new bridge on Green Road had to raise the road level, only added 100 feet of pavement, mud gets so bad on Country Club Road that cars have trouble stopping at the bottom plus it washes out onto the State road; Paving Grant labelled as expense – this is a matching grant so amount that needs to be expended before getting money back; spent on paving East Dover Road, re-surfacing on page 24, line 289; plan for re-surfacing: Shearer Hill Road, Town Farm Road, West Road, Haystack Road – has base coat; could a paving report in the book be considered.

Speakers: John Boyd, Tom Fitzgerald, Doug Wheeler, Marshall Dix, Carol DeBarba, Cliff Duncan, Susan Rand, Barker Willard, III

Motion made to end debate made by Tom Fitzgerald.

Voice Vote: ***Motion to cease debate carried***

Voice Vote: ***Amendment defeated***

Motion made to call the question made by Ralph Staib.

Voice Vote: ***Motion to cease debate carried***

Voice Vote: ***Original motion carried***

Article 5: Shall the Town vote to establish a PSF (Public Safety Facility) Capital Fund for the purpose of building maintenance.

Motion to establish a PSF (Public Safety Facility) Capital Fund for the purpose of building maintenance was made by Tom Fitzgerald and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): how much are you putting in it? Just establishing the fund

Speakers: Ralph Staib, Tom Fitzgerald

Voice Vote: ***Motion carried***

Article 6: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate an additional \$10,000 for a total of \$40,000 to 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?

Motion to raise and appropriate an additional \$10,000 for a total of \$40,000 to 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 Charlie Foster and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): helpful if Rescue could give report of the funds they take in and their expenses, more specifics and transparency

Speaker: Cliff Duncan

Voice Vote: ***Motion carried***

The floor accepted the option of recessing for lunch at 12:25pm.

Meeting reconvened at 1:02pm with approximately 37 voters present.

Article 7: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate an additional \$400 for a total of \$1,000 to the VT Bar Foundation, whose purpose is to provide legal services community, is laser-focused on increasing access to justice for Vermonters who are low-income, underserved, or marginalized?

Motion to raise and appropriate an additional \$400 for a total of \$1,000 to the VT Bar Foundation, whose purpose is to provide legal services community, is laser-focused on increasing access to justice for Vermonters who are low-income, underserved, or marginalized made by Charlie Foster and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): really appreciate when Social Services report how many in our community are served.

Speakers: Nicki Steel

Voice Vote: ***Motion carried***

Article 8: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate an additional \$1,400 for a total of \$2,400 to Windham County 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?

Motion to raise and appropriate an additional \$1,400 for a total of \$2,400 to Windham County 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 made by Charlie Foster and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): can you explain? County-level agency that helps support complex investigations generally involving children, a lot of these are sex crime offenses against children, provide grant supported services to assist the police in investigations but they have specially trained individuals; benefits are two-fold for victims – allowed opportunity to be safe while they provide testimony and provided services and follow up; more than 10 cases in Wilmington

Speakers: Bill Adams, Chief Matt Murano, Rebecca Morris, Tom Fitzgerald

Voice Vote: ***Motion carried***

Article 9: Shall the Town vote to allocate the State per parcel payment estimated to be \$26,962 to the Reappraisal Reserve Fund?

Motion to allocate the State per parcel payment estimated to be \$26,962 to the Reappraisal Reserve Fund made by John Lebron and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): is this when reappraisal needs arise; is there still a Board of Listers; state has not done anything yet about reappraisal changes or the amount needed, fee for appraiser found on page 29? No – fee for appraiser found on page 18, line 29.

Speakers: Doug Wheeler, Bill Adams, Barker Willard, III, Christine Richter

Voice Vote: ***Motion carried***

Voter attendance is now approximately 53.

Article 10: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$200,000 to fund the Highway Town Road Equipment Capital Fund?

Motion to raise and appropriate \$200,000 to fund the Highway Town Road Equipment Capital Fund made by John Lebron and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): None

Voice Vote: ***Motion carried***

Article 11: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$160,000 to fund the Bridge Capital Fund?

Motion to raise and appropriate \$160,000 to fund the Bridge Capital Fund made by John Lebron and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): what is targeted; paid for East Dover Road, Green Road, Lake Raponda at Higley Hill, Higley Hill along Greg Adams property; is this where bridges end and road begins, is there a stop gap option to put ½ yard o gravel in potholes; can put gravel but comes right back

Speakers: Cliff Duncan, Marshall Dix, Gary Henry

Voice Vote: ***Motion carried***

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

Motion to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to fund Highway Building Capital Fund made by Vince Rice and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): are we building any new highways; no – this is for the building

Speakers: Bill Adams

Voice Vote: ***Motion carried***

Article 13: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$220,000 to fund the Fire Department Equipment Capital Fund?

Motion to raise and appropriate \$220,000 to fund the Fire Department Equipment Capital Fund made by Vince Rice and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): new fire truck last year at what cost? \$707,000 if today \$1.2 million; what is plan; holding on to 2001 truck so not looking to replace it – the kicker is that holding off costs more when go for something new; need to replace everyone’s gear every 10 years – that also comes out of this fund; would like to recognize the fire department and their efforts for our community

Speakers: Doug Wheeler, Scott Moore, Cliff Duncan

Voice Vote: ***Motion carried***

Voter attendance is now approximately 53.

Article 14: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$65,000 to fund the Police Equipment Capital Fund?

Motion to raise and appropriate \$65,000 to fund the Police Equipment Capital Fund made by Vince Rice and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): would like to recognize the police department too

Speakers: Doug Wheeler

Voice Vote: ***Motion carried***

Article 15: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 to fund the Old Fire House Capital Fund?

Motion to raise and appropriate \$5,000 to fund the Old Fire House Capital Fund made by Vince Rice and seconded Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): thought this building would be sold after new facility; did roof work and new windows and other repairs, building being use for Social Services and for Town Storage as that was lost when Public Safety Facility was put in, rent out one bay; can store at Wastewater Plant or Miller Road; what is the plan going forward; cost is minimal for the storage needed and central location; expenses on page 20, line 97-104 and revenue on page 26, line 31.

Speakers: John Boyd, Scott Tucker, Helen Staib, John Lebron

Voice Vote: ***Motion carried***

Article 16: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$100,000 to fund the Memorial Hall Capital Fund?

Motion to raise and appropriate \$100,000 to fund the Memorial Hall Capital Fund made by Tony Tribuno and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): doing some maintenance work to come up to code; did a feasibility study, attaching the building to the cement instead of free floating, have MERP grant and another grant, refurbishing windows, ADA ramp needed, door replacement, rest of building requires attention – painting (\$22,000) and rotted siding (\$55,000), bids coming in 30-45% higher; make use of 1% Local Option Tax for needed repairs.

Speakers: Cliff Duncan, Tony Tribuno, Scott Tucker
Voice Vote: **Motion carried**

Article 17: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$12,000 to fund the Library Capital Reserve Fund?
Motion to raise and appropriate \$12,000 to fund the Library Capital Reserve Fund made by Tony Tribuno and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): shout out to Louis Clark and Carolyn Palmer for long years on the Board of Trustees.

Speakers: Barker Willard, III
Voice Vote: **Motion carried**

Article 18: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$75,000 to fund the Town Hall Capital Fund?
Motion to raise and appropriate \$75,000 to fund the Town Hall Capital Fund made by Tony Tribuno and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): None
Voice Vote: **Motion carried**

Article 19: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 to fund the Transfer Station Capital Fund?
Motion to raise and appropriate \$5,000 to fund the Transfer Station Capital Fund made by Tony Tribuno and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): None
Voice Vote: **Motion carried**

Article 20: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$150,000 to fund the Public Lands Fences Capital Fund and for the purpose of construction and maintenance on Lake Raconda Dam?
Motion to raise and appropriate \$150,000 to fund the Public Lands Fences Capital Fund and for the purpose of construction and maintenance on Lake Raconda Dam made by Tony Tribuno and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): last year \$80,000 voted on; took \$25,000 from Town Hall – not indicated appropriately on page 29 Capital Accounts; dam has landed as town’s responsibility, no grants available, the dam structure was downgraded and insurance was concerned, hired MSK Engineering from Bennington to find and determine what needs to be done, putting money aside instead of going out to bond; if dam was to fall apart would it need to be replaced or left to its natural state; that might be a comment by the Lake Raconda Association, was told the lake might go down a few feet, but State establishing what they are now calling a 500-year storm standard.

Speakers: Cliff Duncan, Scott Tucker, Barker Willard, III
Voice Vote: **Motion carried**

Voter attendance at 1:46pm was approximately 60.

Article 21: Shall the voters authorize payment of real property taxes in two installments, with the due dates being August 28, 2026 and February 26, 2027, by delivery to Town Hall by 4:30 p.m. on the due date or postmarked on or before the due date?

Motion to authorize payment of real property taxes in two installments, with the due dates being August 28, 2026, and February 26, 2027, by delivery to Town Hall by 4:30pm on the due date or postmarked on or before the due date made by Tony Tribuno and seconded by Doug Wheeler.

Debate (including but not limited to): None
Voice Vote: **Motion carried**

Article 22: To transact any non-binding business.

Discussion (including but not limited to): concerns about activity in the Middle East; not incur finance charge if capital funds loaned to other issue; years ago Selectboard signed a Promissory Note, Selectboard has authority

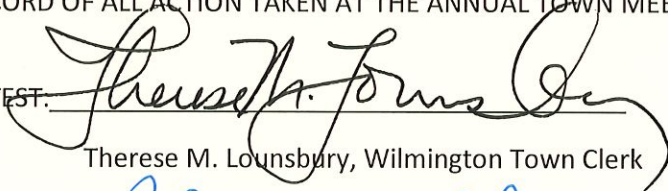
to do what is necessary to keep the town moving forward; long ago tried rainy day fund – was shot down; get rid of wastewater line East of town; two announcements from Vermont Municipal Clerks' and Treasurers' Association read regarding threatening election officials and protection of voter private data (see attached); give credit to the work that OSEC has done in converting this old school
Speakers: Merrill Mundell, Christine Richter, Tom Fitzgerald, Ralph Staib, Bill Adams, Therese Lounsbury, Gary Henry, Cliff Duncan, Helen Staib

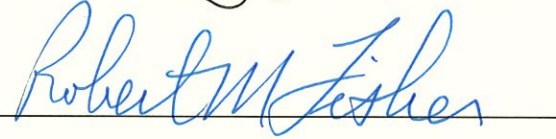
Hearing no other business, the moderator entertained a motion to recess the floor meeting and move to the voting by Australian Ballot.

Motion to adjourn made by Barker Willard, III, seconded by Tom Fitzgerald.


Adjourned at 2:04pm.

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 3, 2026.


ATTEST: 
Therese M. Lounsbury, Wilmington Town Clerk

ATTEST: 
Robert Fisher, Moderator

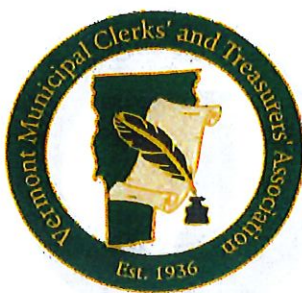
DATE: 3/10/2026

ATTEST: 
Tom Fitzgerald, Selectboard Chair

DATE: 3/11/2026

ATTEST: 
John Lebron, Justice of Peace

DATE: 3/11/2026



Vermont Municipal Clerks' and Treasurers' Association (VMCTA) Statement about Threatening of Election Officials

The VMCTA strongly condemns threatening, harassing, bribing, or interfering with election officials, either while performing their duties, or outside of their work hours. We also condemn threatening, harassing, or interfering with the lives of their family members, pets, or close friends. Election officials perform their work under oath to uphold the laws of their state and of the United States Constitution. Injurious acts toward election officials will not change the outcome of a vote. Anyone with a complaint about the acts of an election official should follow the procedures of law, as required by 42 U.S.C. § 15512(a), and 17 V.S.A. § 2458.



Statement of the Vermont Clerks and Treasurers' Association

The Vermont Clerks and Treasurers' Association reaffirms its commitment to faithfully administer and enforce Vermont election law as written, including all statutory requirements related to the protection and use of voter information.

As provided in Title 17, § 2154 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated, which governs the statewide voter checklist, Vermont law places clear limitations on the disclosure and use of voter checklist information. While the statewide voter checklist is a public record, current Vermont law strictly mandates that a voter's **full date of birth, Social Security number, driver's license number, telephone number, and email address** remain confidential and exempt from public inspection and copying under the Public Records Act. The law also includes restrictions on disclosure to federal agencies for certain purposes, such as comparing a voter's information maintained in the checklist to personally identifying information contained in other federal databases and publicly disclosing a voter's information for such purposes.

Vermont municipal clerks are the custodians of election records and voter information in our local communities. In that capacity, we administer and safeguard voter checklists in accordance with Title 17 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated. We join the Vermont Secretary of State in our commitment to faithfully carry out those duties regarding the voter checklist in a professional, nonpartisan manner, guided by Vermont statutes, applicable court orders, and any lawful directives.

As always, we remain committed to maintaining the integrity of Vermont's elections and the public trust placed in local election officials.

Respectfully stated by the Vermont Clerks' and Treasurers' Association Executive Board 2026