

## **ANNUAL TOWN & SCHOOL MEETING**

**MARCH 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 6:30 P.M.**

Town Moderator, Adrian Otterman called the Annual Meeting for the Town & School to order at 6:32 p.m. Adrian opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. We had a moment of silence for George Malek and the opportunity of self-governance.

Adrian explained the Roberts Rules of Order that he would be following for the meeting and that he would moderate this meeting until another Moderator was elected under Article 1 of the School and Town meetings. He then read both the School and Town warnings.

Adrian asked to have one vote for Article 1 to elect a Moderator for the coming term as the law directs. Fred Kidder nominated Adrian Otterman for Moderator for both Town and School. There was a second and Adrian was elected for the ensuing year. Adrian recessed the Town Meeting to first complete the School Meeting.

## **ANNUAL SCHOOL MEETING**

Article 2 – To elect a school director for one year. There was a nomination and 2<sup>nd</sup> for Corinne Relation

Article 3 – To elect a school director for one year. There was a nomination and a 2<sup>nd</sup> for Alan Small.

Article 4 - To elect a school director for one year. There was a nomination for Janis Blais, she declined. There were no other nominations.

Article 5 – To transact any other business that may properly become before this meeting. Jess Foster announced that the budget passed for the Unified School District and she was very happy for the kids and all the hard work from all that were part of the merger. There was discussion that Pre-K – 4<sup>th</sup> grade would be going to Washington and 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade would be going to Orange. Jess explained that there would be 2 principals for this transition year and they would explore other possibilities for the future. Janis Blais asked if there would be Australian ballot for future votes on at least the budget if it will be voted during the day. Jess explained that she would be asking for feedback about how/what time for next from the voters. She did say next year the vote will be held in Orange, they will alternate between towns. There was nothing on the warning that set the date and time for the next meeting. Lee Youngman asked about the \$60,000.00 for a capital improvement fund that was not able to be voted. Jess explained that there would have to be a special meeting for that question and she does not know as the Schoolboard has not met to discuss this yet.

Adrian asked for a motion to adjourn at 6:55 p.m.

## ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Adrian read the warning for Town Meeting and then gave Chris Lamonda from the Barre Town EMS some time to talk about the changes to the way the EMS is now operating. They have created some part time positions so the full-time staff have more bearable hours to save on burn out.

Article 2 – There was a motion and 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the reports of the Town Officers as printed.

Article 3 – To elect Town Officers for the coming term.

1 Year Term Town Clerk – Janis Blais nominated Kathie Felch - elected.

1 Year Term Town Treasurer – Janis Blais nominated Kathie Felch - elected.

1 Year Term Delinquent Tax Collector – Kevin Wilson nominated Mary Clafin - elected.

3 Year Term Selectboard – Dirk Anderson nominated Sue Perreault. Corrine Relation nominated Bob Richardson, he declined. Mary Clafin nominated Gary Eggleston, he declined. There were no other nominations. Town Clerk was instructed to cast one Ballot for Sue Perreault.

3 Year Term Lister – John McNeil nominated Edmund Bedard. Town Clerk instructed to cast one Ballot.

3 Year Term Auditor – Kevin Wilson nominated John McNeil. Town Clerk instructed to cast one Ballot.

3 Year Term Cemetery Commissioner – Bob Richardson nominated Kevin Wilson, he declined. Janis Blais nominated Clark Agnew. Town Clerk instructed to cast one Ballot.

Article 4 -To set the compensation of the Town Officers. Fred Kidder made a motion to set the salaries the same as last year. Town Clerk \$42,000, Asst Town Clerk \$19,500. Selectboard Members \$1,000 each, Other Officers \$20.00 hour. So moved and seconded.

Article – David Childs made a motion to approve as printed in the town report. So moved and seconded. The town will raise the sum of \$260,026.00 for the General Fund, of which \$222,478.72 is to be raised in taxes. The body approved the motion.

Article 6 – Fred Kidder made a motion to approve as printed in the town report. Jessica Foster asked if that was enough for the Highway Fund to maintain the roads. Eric explained that the town wants to be conservative. Jess made a motion to amend the budget and increase the paving/resurfacing budget by \$20,000.00. The body declined to amend the main motion. It was moved and seconded to approve the original motion. The town will raise the sum of \$430,650.00 or some other sum for the Highway Fund of which \$347,399.7. The body approved the motion.

Article 7 – To determine to raise the sum of \$7,000 to support the Town Cemeteries. Dirk Anderson made a motion to approve as submitted. Kevin Wilson asked if the town went to the Peake Cemetery this year. Kathie explained there was resistance from the adjoining property owner that hasn't been resolved and the town didn't want to turn it into a legal issue but we will pursue it this summer. There was a second to the main motion and the body voted to approve.

Article 8 – 18 - To determine what amount of money the town will vote for Non-Profits. Adrian Asked to vote with a single vote for a total of \$7,125.00. Fred Kidder made a motion to approve as submitted. There was a second and the body voted to approve.

Collette Smith spoke on behalf of Community Capstone which served 75 households in Orange this year.

Sue Perreault spoke on behalf of Safeline which provided 79 services for 14 residents in Orange.

Article 19 – To determine if the electorate will to raise the sum of \$85,000.00 to pave a 1305' x 22' section of Reservoir Road. Jess Foster made a motion to approve. There was a second and the body voted to approve.

There was discussion about taking out a bond and paving the entire road. Eric explained that before it was even paid off it would be deteriorated. The board plans to devise a plan to complete a section each year.

Article 20 – To determine the method of collection of taxes for 2018. Fred Kidder made a motion to approve August 15<sup>th</sup> and November 15<sup>th</sup> with a 5 day grace period. Tina Otis seconded and the body voted to approve.

Article 21 – Will the Town vote to set the time to start Town Meeting 2019. Fred Kidder made a motion to keep as the first Tuesday of March @ 6:30 p.m. There was a second and the body voted to approve.

Article 22 – To discuss any other business that may come before this meeting. Kevin Wilson would like the board to consider a leash law for Orange. There was discussion and the board will look into possibly revising the Animal Control Ordinance.

With no other business to come before the board, Adrian asked for a motion to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

Attest,

Kathie Felch

Town Clerk/Treasurer