

TOWN OF LYNDON
MINUTES OF
2013 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The 223rd Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Lyndon was held as warned at the Lyndon Town School Gymnasium on Tuesday, March 5, 2013. Moderator Joe Benning gavelled the meeting to order at 9:01 AM. Mr. Benning asked the assembly for a moment of silence for Norman LaCross who worked with the Highway Crew and those who have passed during the year. Boy Scout Troop #738 and Cub Scout Pack # 738 presented the colors and Daisy and Jr. Girl Scout Troop # 30725 led the assembly of 134 in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Benning introduced the Selectboard, Town Clerk, Linda Lee, Justin Smith and Kylie and Katie Harris for running the microphone during the meeting. Municipal Administrator Dan Hill was given permission to speak during the meeting although he is not a Lyndon resident. Mr. Benning addressed the assembly with the rules used to run the Annual Meeting. At 9:25 AM, Mr. Benning stepped down as Moderator, with Selectboard Chairperson Kermit Fisher stepping in to address the assembly along with Legislative representatives Martha Feltus and Dick Lawrence regarding the happenings in Montpelier. Mr. Benning resumed his position as Moderator at 9:25 AM and the reading of the Warning was dispensed with.

Article 1. Shall the voters of the Town of Lyndon authorize the Selectboard to borrow money for the operation of the Wastewater Department not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in anticipation of revenues and to execute and deliver the note or notes therefore?

Motion made by Susan Teske, seconded by Derek Murphy, to adopt Article 1. Stephen Pitman informed by the Town Clerk that nothing was borrowed in 2012. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 2. Shall the voters of the Town of Lyndon authorize the Selectboard to set charges by residential unit to defray the cost of sanitation service for the period January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013, and to set the date of collection of same?

Motion made by Derek Murphy, seconded by Patricia Jauch, to adopt Article 2. Carol Fisher was told that anticipated yearly cost will be \$160 down from \$175 and that collection of delinquent sanitation charges is accomplished through the same practice as collecting delinquent taxes. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 3. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$5,400 to assist the Area Agency on Aging for Northeastern Vermont in providing services to senior citizens in the ensuing year?

Motion made by Catherine Boykin, seconded by Hilary Adams, to adopt Article 3. Edson Birchard spoke on behalf of the organization. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 4. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$9,500 to the Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice to be used in providing health care services?

Motion made by Derek Murphy, seconded by Susan Teske, to adopt Article 4. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 5. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$1,000 to Catamount Arts?

Motion made by Catherine Boykin, seconded by David Martin, to adopt Article 5. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 6. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$4,000 to the Darling Inn Senior Meal Site, Inc. to provide services to residents of the Town?

Motion made by Hilary Adams, seconded by Patricia Francis, to adopt Article 6. Robert Lawrence, board member, spoke on behalf of the organization. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 7. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$5,981 for the support of the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium to provide free unlimited general admission to the Museum to the residents of the Town?

Motion made by Catherine Boykin, seconded by Susan Teske, to adopt Article 7. Carol Fisher asked if there was a representative from the Museum. No one responded.

Motion made by Carol Fisher, seconded by Jennie Hartsock, to pass over Article 7. Carol Fisher asked for paper ballot. Mr. Benning asked the assembly if there were seven voters to second the motion. Being enough, paper ballots were cast. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the negative by a paper ballot count of No - 57, Yes – 23.

There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 8. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$2,000 to Helping Other People Everyday (HOPE)?

Motion made by Derek Murphy, seconded by Susan Teske, to adopt Article 8. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 9. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$2,000 to the Lyndon Area Chamber of Commerce?

Motion made by Stephanie Jackson, seconded by Derek Murphy, to adopt Article 9. Teresa Vasko, a volunteer at the Information Booth, spoke about her time at the Booth but wasn't able to answer Sue Teske's questions. Kathy Durocher said the tangible numbers could be found by contacting Mary Marceau or the Cobleigh Public Library. Carol Fisher asked how the money was going to be used. Kathy Durocher mentioned that the volunteer coordinator was offered a paid position.

Being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 10. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$1,500 to Lyndon Area Senior Action Center, Inc.?

Motion made by Edson Birchard, seconded by Ray Durocher, to adopt Article 10. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 11. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$1,000 to Lyndon Area Sports Association to help support the rink?

Motion made by Derek Murphy, seconded by Sue Teske, to adopt Article 11. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 12. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$1,000 to Lyndon Youth Baseball/Softball?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Derek Murphy, to adopt Article 12. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 13. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$6,280 to the Northeast Kingdom Human Services to support their work with individuals in our community?

Motion made by Stephanie Jackson, seconded by Kathy Durocher, to adopt Article 13. Tami Pitman asked why they are on the appropriation list if they get tax money. Carol Fisher asked for a show of hands rather than a voice vote. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by hand vote.

Article 14. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$2,750 to Northeast Kingdom Youth Services) to support their work with youth and families in our community?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Hilary Adams, to adopt Article 14. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 15. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$2,288 to Northeastern Vermont Development Association for planning, development, promoting and publicizing the resources of Caledonia, Essex and Orleans counties with other towns in the three counties?

Motion made by Martha Feltus, seconded by Kirsten Sultan, to adopt Article 15. Martha Feltus, Lyndon's Town representative to the NVDA board, spoke on behalf of the organization and answered the assembly's questions. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 16. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$1,700 to Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)?

Motion made by Teresa Vasko, seconded by Jodi Wheeler, to adopt Article 16. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 17. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$6,441 to the Rural Community Transportation for services provided to residents living in the town of Lyndon?

Motion made by Pat Francis, seconded by Dave Cobb, to adopt Article 17. Pat Francis advised the assembly that her husband, Stanley Francis, a driver for RCT, was scheduled to represent the organization but had an unexpected client. David Dill spoke on behalf of the organization and addressed questions and comments. The Selectboard will ask RCT to come to a future Selectboard Meeting to address questions. Carol Fisher made the motion to pass over Article 17, seconded by Robert Hanson. Wanita Gardner reminded the assembly that Mr. Francis wasn't able to attend due to an emergency client and that it should be taken into consideration. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the negative by voice vote to pass over the article. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 18. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$500 to Special Olympics for Caledonia County to support their work with athletes in our community?

Motion made by Dave Cobb, seconded by Stephen Pitman, to adopt Article 18. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 19. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$4,800 to Umbrella, Inc. to serve victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children, and to ensure families have access to affordable, high quality child care?

Motion made by Derek Murphy, seconded by Sue Teske, to adopt Article 19. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 20. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$7,500 to the Village Improvement Society (VIS) to use towards operating the Powers Park Summer Program?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Ron Guy, to adopt Article 20. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 21. Shall the voters of the Town of Lyndon vote to adopt the proposed General Fund budget for the ensuing year? (NOTE: Total General Fund budget is subject to increase by amounts approved on previous special appropriations.)

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Stephanie Jackson, to adopt Article 21. David Dill, Selectboard member, gave an overview of the proposed budget. Sue Teske made the motion to amend the General Fund Budget by increasing it by \$1,000 to benefit the Lyndon Outing Club. Ms. Teske told the assembly that their board was unable to obtain the necessary petition signatures to get their appropriation on the warning. Ken Burchesky called a point of order. He advised the budget could only be amended downward. Mr. Benning corrected Mr. Burchesky in that amendments to the budget can be made in either direction.

The motion was made by Stephanie Jackson, seconded by Derek Murphy to amend the General Fund Budget to \$1,993,615. There being no further discussion, the amended article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Dan Hill, Municipal Administrator, answered Ken Burchesky's questions about the efficiency of the gymnasium. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 22. Shall the voters of the Town of Lyndon vote that taxpayers pay real property taxes to the Treasurer on or before 4:30 PM on Friday, November 1, 2013, with delinquent taxes having interest charges of one percent per month for the first three months, whereafter interest rates will be one and one-half percent per month, and an eight percent late penalty charged against them from the due date of November 1, 2013, at 4:30 PM?

Motion made by Pat Jauch, seconded by Pat Francis, to adopt Article 22. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 23. Shall the voters of the Town of Lyndon vote to authorize its Selectboard (for a period of one (1) year) to enter into contracts with new industrial and commercial owners, lessees, bailees, or operators of industrial and/or commercial real property,(including additions to existing real property), for the purpose of fixing and maintaining the valuation of such real property in the Grand List - or for the purpose of fixing and maintaining the tax rate applicable to such real property pursuant to the provisions of 24 V.S.A. 2741?

Motion made by Derek Murphy, seconded by Sue Teske, to adopt Article 23. David Dill addressed the assembly and answered Hilary Adams, Carol Fisher and Chris Thompson's questions. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote of more than a two-thirds majority.

Article 24. Shall the voters of the Town of Lyndon vote to authorize its Selectboard (for the period of one (1) year) to enter into contracts with agricultural owners, lessees, bailees, or operators who construct or acquire new agricultural real property,(including additions to existing real property), for the purpose of fixing and maintaining the valuation of such real property in the Grand List - or for the purpose of fixing and maintaining the tax rate applicable to such real property pursuant to the provision of 24 V.S.A. 2741?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Derek Murphy, to adopt Article 22. David Dill, Selectboard member, answered Kathy Durocher's question regarding genetically grown crops. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 25. Australian balloting for election of officers, school district budget, and the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District budget. (Results reported at the end of these minutes.)

Article 26. Shall the voters of Lyndon authorize the Selectboard to borrow up to \$70,000, over a period not to exceed ten (10) years to install a new wood pellet system in the Municipal Building and Gymnasium? (Australian balloting, results reported at the end of these minutes.)

Article 27. Do the voters of the Town of Lyndon desire to transact any other proper business?

Stephen Pitman thanked the Selectboard for their fiscal conservatism. Sue Teske encouraged voters to fill out the Lyndon Outing Club survey downstairs. She also thanked Joe Benning for his service as Moderator and keeping the meeting running smoothly. Carol Fisher told the voters she is passing a petition requesting special appropriations be voted on by Australian ballot in 2014. Richard Lawrence mentioned the confusion of the warning in regards to the items being voted on by Australian Ballot. Mr. Benning will work with the Town Clerk to make it more clearly for next year. Patricia Jauch spoke on behalf of the Lyndon Historical Society. Ken Burchesky asked for a show of hands in favor to suspend wind power. Paul Tomasi from Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District handed out highlights of the bill H.485 and answered questions about mandatory recycling.

There being no further business, motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Tami Pitman, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried in the affirmative by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM.

TOWN OF LYNDON
MINUTES OF
2013 ANNUAL TOWN HIGHWAY DISTRICT MEETING

The Annual Town Highway District Meeting of the Town of Lyndon was gaveled to order at 12:47 PM on March 5, 2013.

Article 28. Shall the voters of the Town Highway District vote to adopt the proposed budget for the highway expenses for the ensuing year?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Derek Murphy, to adopt Article 28 in the amount of \$1,605,833. Kermit Fisher, Selectboard chair, addressed the assembly, answering Kirsten Sultan's question regarding summer construction and Ken Burchesky's question about what class is Broad Street. gave an overview of the proposed budget. Mr. Fisher thanked the road crew for their hard work maintaining the Town's roads. Stephanie Jackson was told that the Charles Street project is a Village project and that the Route 5 project is slated for 2014. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 29. Shall the voters of the Town Highway District vote that taxpayers pay their Town Highway taxes to the Treasurer on or before 4:30 PM on Friday, November 1, 2013, with delinquent taxes having interest charges of one percent per month for the first three months, whereafter interest rates will be one and one-half percent per month, and an eight percent late penalty charged against them from the due date of November 1, 2013, at 4:30 PM?

Motion made by Derek Murphy, seconded by Dave Cobb, to adopt Article 29. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 30. Do the voters of the Town Highway District desire to transact any other proper business?

Mr. Benning thanked Kylie & Katie Harris for running the cordless microphone during the meeting and Dan Hill for being available to answer questions. There being no other business, motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Derek Murphy, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried in the affirmative by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 12:53 PM.

A True Record.

ATTEST:

Kermit Fisher, Selectboard Chair

Joe Benning, Moderator

Dawn R. Dwyer, Town Clerk