

TOWN OF LYNDON MINUTES OF 2015 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The 225th Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Lyndon was held as warned at the Lyndon Town School Gymnasium on Tuesday, March 3, 2015. Moderator Joe Benning gavelled the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Mr. Benning asked the assembly for a moment of silence for those who have passed during the year. Selectboard Chair Marty Feltus spoke a few words in memory of Selectboard member David Dill who passed away on February 26, 2015. Presenting the Colors as well as leading the assembly of 102 in the Pledge of Allegiance were Cub Scout Pierce Thompson, Boy Scouts Zach Wilson, Gabriel Hatch, Lucas Patoine, Jordan Patoine, Cadet Elizabeth Leonard and Brownies Jade Avilas, Hailey Allen, and Cassandra Leonard. Sadie Chamberlain, a 7th grader from Lyndon Town School, sang the National Anthem. Mr. Benning introduced Linda Lee, Kaela Gray, the Selectboard members Marty Feltus and Kermit Fisher, Town Clerk, Dawn Dwyer and Justin Smith, Municipal Administrator. Katie Harris was our runner from Lyndon Institute.

Mr. Benning addressed the assembly with the rules used to run the Annual Meeting and commenced with the reading of the Warning.

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 Sue Teske, seconded by Patricia Jauch, to adopt Article 1. There being no 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 solid waste management services for the period January 1, 2015 through May 31, 2015 including household pickup, and recycling service for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, and to set the date of collection of same?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Mike Schlesinger, to adopt Article 2. Marty Feltus answered questions from the assembly regarding the changes due to Act 148, Vermont's Universal Recycling Act. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Moderator Joe Benning suspended the meeting to introduce the Legislative Delegation, Marty Feltus and Richard Lawrence, Representatives to Legislature and Joe Benning, State Senator. The Delegation spoke to the assembly regarding the happenings in Montpelier. They answered questions on the topics of education, transportation, the proposed change in how the Governor is elected, and legalizing marijuana. The Moderator returned to the meeting at 10:06 AM.

Article 3: Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$5,700 to assist the Area Agency on Aging for Northeastern Vermont in providing services to senior citizens in the ensuing year?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Mike Schlesinger, to adopt Article 3. Edson Birchard spoke on behalf of the organization and answered Carol Fisher's questions. 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 Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice to be used in providing health care services?

Motion made by Kenneth "Mark" Beattie, seconded by Carol Fisher, 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 the Catamount Arts?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Tom Berriman, to adopt Article 5. Carol Fisher asked if there was a representative from the organization that could answer questions. There was not. Motion made by Carol Fisher, seconded by Joan Hahr, to pass over the appropriation. After several of the assembly spoke in favor of the organization, as well as a few remarking their displeasure at not having a representative to answer questions, motion was made by Sue Teske, seconded by Stephanie Jackson to call the question of passing over the article. The motion was defeated by voice vote. Moderator Benning re-read the original article and there being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

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

Motion made by Edson Birchard, seconded by Stephanie Jackson, to adopt Article 6. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 7: Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$5,981 to support the operation of the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium during the ensuing year, in exchange for free unlimited admission to the Museum for all Lyndon residents?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Tom Berriman, to adopt Article 7. Carol Fisher asked if there was a representative available to answer questions. Tom Berriman, past staff member, gave a brief overview of the updates that were done to the Museum this winter. He advised the assembly that 600 Lyndon residents left their names at the front desk last year. 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 the Lyndon Area Chamber of Commerce in maintaining and operating the Information Booth on Broad Street in Lyndonville?

Motion made by Pat Jauch, seconded by Sue Teske, to adopt Article 8. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 9: Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$1,500 to Lyndon Area Senior Action Center, Inc.?

Motion made by Edson Birchard, seconded by Mike Schlesinger, to adopt Article 9. Edson Birchard spoke on behalf of the organization and informed the assembly they have not asked for an increase in their appropriation in ten years. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 10: Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$6,000 to Lyndon Outing Club?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Kenneth "Mark" Beattie, to adopt Article 10. Sue Teske explained the one-time \$1,000 increase in their appropriation this year is to repair the bull-wheel. Sue also answered Carol Fisher's questions regarding the number of users of the Outing Club. 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 Youth Baseball/Softball?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Dan Weiner, 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 \$6,280 to Northeast Kingdom Human Services to be directed toward supporting Psychiatry positions to meet community demands for services that are not funded elsewhere?

Motion made by Mike Schlesinger, seconded by Stephanie Jackson, to adopt Article 12. Stephanie asked representative Dixie McFarland what types of psychiatry positions they are referring to. Dixie answered they are more toward children psychiatry. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 13: Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$2,750 to the Northeast Kingdom Youth Services to support their work with youth and families in our community?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Mike Schlesinger, to adopt Article 13. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 14: Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$6,441 to Rural Community Transportation for services provided to residents living in the Town of Lyndon?

Motion made by Dan Weiner, seconded by Kenneth "Mark" Beattie, to adopt Article 14. Carol Fisher asked if there was a representative, other than drivers, that could answer budget questions. There was not a representative available. Edson Birchard spoke that he sees the busses being utilized in the Village District. Motion made by Carol Fisher, seconded by Joan Hahr, to pass over the article. Kenneth "Mark" Beattie asked the assembly to focus on the services they provide rather than not having a representative at the meeting. There being no further discussion, the motion to pass over the article was defeated by voice vote. There being no further discussion on the original article, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 15: Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$7,500 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 Sue Teske, seconded by Sara Simpson, to adopt Article 15. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 16: 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 Edson Birchard, seconded by Mike Schlesinger, to adopt Article 16. Carol Fisher asked if other Towns were asked for appropriations and how is their appropriation amount determined. Adrienne

D'Olimpio, President of VIS answered Carol's questions. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 17: Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$25,000 for the purpose of resurfacing the municipal pool at Power's Park, purchasing a pump and renovation of the bathhouse, contingent on the municipality being awarded a grant to fund the balance of the project.

Motion made by Edson Birchard, seconded by Dan Weiner, to adopt Article 17. Chris Thompson answered questions from Carol Fisher, Sherb Lang and Mike Schlesinger regarding the projects. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 18: Shall 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.) Special Appropriation's \$92,152, total General Fund Budget \$1,949,234.

Motion made by Mike Schlesinger, seconded by Pat Jauch, to adopt Article 18.

Marty Feltus gave an overview of the General Fund budget and noted that the budget, excluding special appropriations, reflects a one cent increase. Carol Fisher, Ken Burchesky and Dan Weiner's questions were answered by the Selectboard. Questions were in regards to Lyndon Rescue merging with Calex, the taxation of the silos on Raymond Street, the pellet boiler fuel costs and the changes in Municipal Administrator fixed costs. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 19: 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 6, 2015, with delinquent taxes having interest charges of one percent for the first three months, where after 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 6, 2015, at 4:30 PM?

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

Article 20: 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 Pat Jauch, seconded by Sherb Lang, to adopt Article 20. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 21: 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 agricultural owners, lessees, bailees, or operators of 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 provisions of 24 V.S.A. 2741?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Twila Perry, to adopt article 21. Ken Burchesky asked if there were any tax deals made in regards to Article 20 or 21. Marty Feltus informed him there have not been. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 22: Do the voters of the Town of Lyndon desire to transact any other proper business?

Moderator Joe Benning recognized Vicki Dill in the assembly. He thanked her for the Dill's Family involvement in our community and shared our condolences with the passing of Dave. Vicki then received a warm standing ovation. Pat Jauch invited the assembly to join the Lyndon Historical Society and referred them to the report found on page sixteen of the 2014 Town Report. Sherb Lang suggested the Selectboard erect a plaque at the Town Office for Dave Dill's service to the Town. Ken Burchesky asked that minutes from Special Town Meetings appear in the Town Report. Adrienne D'Olimpio spoke briefly regarding Powers Park's 100th Birthday Celebration activities that will be going on throughout the year.

Article 23: Australian balloting for election of officers, the school district budget, the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District budget and a bond vote on an upgrade to the Wastewater Treatment Facility. (Results reported at the end of these minutes).

There being no further discussion, motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Mike Schlesinger, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried in the affirmative by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM.

TOWN OF LYNDON MINUTES OF THE 2015
ANNUAL TOWN HIGHWAY DISTRICT MEETING

The Annual Town Highway District Meeting of the Town of Lyndon was gaveled to order at 11:15 AM on Tuesday, March 3, 2015.

Article 1: Shall the voters of the Town Highway District vote to authorize the Selectboard to transfer the Restricted Funds identified as Blacktop Reclaiming (Approximately \$8,671.22) to the Highway General Fund for the purpose of supporting the 2015 Highway Budget?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Twila Perry, to adopt Article 1. Mike Schlesinger asked if the remainder of South Wheelock Road would be repaved. Kermit Fisher explained the process for repairing the town roads with the worst conditions getting top priority. Carol Fisher asked about paving the remaining unpaved section of Lily Pond Road. Kermit Fisher explained that that section was not on the high priority list. Kirsten Sultan questioned the \$60,000 Property Tax Revenue item. Clerk Dawn Dwyer explained it should have been in the line above, Cash on Hand. William Beaulac asked about the Railroad Tracks south of Cumberland Farms. Kermit Fisher explained that they would be fixed during the construction slated for this spring. Adrienne D'Olimpio also mention that the RR Crossing lights at that crossing do not appear to work properly. Justin Smith, Municipal Administrator will look into that. Sherb Lang offered a thank you to the road crew for their hard work and long hours this winter. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 2: Shall the voters of the Town Highway District vote to authorize the Selectboard to transfer the Restricted Funds identified as East Lyndon Resurfacing (Approximately \$1,219.99) to the Highway General Fund for the purpose of supporting the 2015 Highway Budget?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Pat Jauch, to adopt Article 2. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 3: Shall the voters of the Town Highway District vote to adopt the proposed budget for the highway expenses for the ensuing year? Total Highway Budget expenses being \$1,316,919.

Motion made by Stephanie Jackson, seconded by Sue Teske, to adopt Article 3. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 4: 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 6, 2015, with delinquent taxes having interest charges of one percent per month for the first three months, where after 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 6, 2015, at 4:30 PM?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Mike Schlesinger, to adopt Article 4. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 5: Do the voters of the Town Highway District desire to transact any other proper business?

Motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Carol Fisher, to adjourn the meeting. There being no discussion, the motion carried in the affirmative by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 11:28 AM.

A True Record:
ATTEST:

Martha "Marty" Feltus, Selectboard Chair

Joe Benning, Moderator

Dawn R. Dwyer, Town Clerk