

From VLCT, July/August 2012, Secretary of State Jim Condos RE: Town Meeting Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of a public body should not attempt to be a transcript of the meeting or a complete restatement of all public discussion at the meeting. 1 V.S.A. #312(b) provides a list of what must be included in minutes. In summary: Record all motions whether adopted or defeated, name of the maker of the motion, number of votes on each side in a motion, names of board members present, names of active participants in the meeting. Do not record discussion or expressions of personal opinion. Do not try to capture individual statements except for motions made.

**MINUTES
TOWN OF BARNARD
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
March 5, 2024**

Meeting called to order at 10:00 A.M. by Paul Doton, who leads Pledge of Allegiance.

ARTICLES

- 1. To elect a Town Moderator.** Charles Campbell nominates Paul Doton. **Voice vote elects Paul Doton.** Paul Doton explains procedures that will be followed for the day.
- 2. To hear the reports of the Town Officers.** Tom Morse makes motion to accept the reports of the Town Officers. Wes Hennig seconds motion. No discussion. **Voice vote passes article.**
- 3. To elect the following Town Officers by ballot: one Selectman for three years, one Auditor for three years, a Delinquent Tax Collector for one year, a First Constable for one year, a Second Constable for one year, a Town Clerk for three years, a Treasurer for three years and to elect all other officers as made necessary by law.** (Except as noted, all nominations were moved, and a seconding motion made that nominations cease, and the Town Clerk or Assistant Town Clerk cast one ballot for the person nominated. The first person named in parentheses nominated the person for office, the second person named moved nominations cease and the third person seconded the motion.) Diane Rainey says Town Clerk and Treasurer were both elected last year for three year terms so not necessary for this year. **One Selectman for three years: Bob Edmunds** (Wes Hennig, Charles Campbell, Richard Lancaster) **One Auditor for three years: Beth Finlayson** (Bob Edmunds, Terry Davis, Richard Lancaster) **one Delinquent Tax Collector for one year: Diane Rainey** (Wes Hennig, Sue Lewis, Charles Campbell) **one First Constable for one year: Wes Hennig** (Phil Lewis, Sue Lewis, Richard Lancaster) **one Second Constable for one year: Edwin Cole** (Charles Campbell, Wes Hennig, Richard Lancaster) **Trustee of Public Funds for 3 years: Dan Leavitt** (Steve Cota, Sue Lewis, Dean Edmunds) **one Library Trustee for five years: Sue Reynolds** (Judy Maynes, Sue Lewis, Terry Davis) **one Cemetery Commissioner for five years: Sue Lewis** (Bob Edmunds, Chris Campbell, Dean Edmunds) **one**

Cemetery Commissioner for three years (Joe Tokarski resigned) Jerry Blakeney (Bob Edmunds, Chris Campbell, Richard Lancaster)

- 4. Shall the voters authorize the Treasurer to collect current taxes?** Carol Mosher makes motion, second by Richard Lancaster. No discussion. **Voice vote passes article.**
- 5. To authorize the Treasurer to collect property taxes for the ensuing year in two equal payments. The first payment to be due on or after August 15, 2024, with the due date being set by the Treasurer, and the second payment being due on February 15, 2025. Such payments are to be made in United States funds, to be physically received by the Town on or before the due date, or if mailed, legibly postmarked on or before the due date, with interest and penalties to be applied to past due payments as allowed by law.** Tom Morse makes motion, second by Sue Lewis. No discussion. **Voice vote passes article.**
- 6. To authorize the Board of Selectmen to reconcile the FY23 General Fund and Highway surplus or deficit, and in the event of a surplus, the amount is to be carried forward to the next fiscal year.** Motion by Heather Lawler, seconded by Dan Leavitt. Discussion. **Voice vote passes article.**
- 7. Shall the Town raise \$16,500 for restoration of 13 original windows on the main floor of the Danforth Library?** Motion by Judy Maynes, seconded by Susan McNulty. Discussion. **Voice vote passes article.**
- 8. Shall the Town transfer \$300,000 from accumulated budget surpluses as of June 2023 into the Major Highway Projects reserve (dedicated) fund for the purposes of critical road repairs including culverts, bridges and bank slides?** Motion by Tom Morse, seconded by Mike Manning. Discussion. **Voice vote passes article.**
- 9. To vote a FY25 Highway budget of \$1,497,237.00 of which \$1,367,237.00 shall be raised by taxes, and a FY25 General budget of \$875,977.65 of which \$589,462.65 shall be raised by taxes.** Motion by Sue Lewis, seconded by Chris Campbell. Discussion. James Lancaster makes motion to amend article: add \$120,000 for fourth road crew member. Motion seconded by Ed Jodice. Discussion. Voice vote approves amendment. As a result of Article 7 and this amendment, Article 9 is amended as follows: **To vote a FY25 Highway budget of \$1,617,237.00 of which \$1,487,237.00 shall be raised by taxes, and a FY25 General budget of \$892,477.65 of which \$605,962.65 shall be raised by taxes.** Discussion. **Voice vote passes amended article.**

Representative Heather Surprenant speaks to the meeting.

- 10. To do any other business which may come legally before this meeting.** Steve Cota speaks of vacancies on various Town committees and thanks Gerry Fredrickson for his work. James Lancaster makes motion to have a resolution among the Board of Selectmen to form a committee to work with the Selectmen on road issues. Motion seconded by Ed Jodice. **Voice vote passes motion.** Jack Dibble speaks to need for a sound system to work in the Town Hall. Dan Leavitt agrees and says system should include the ability for on-line participation. Discussion of concerns about Post Office. Mike Manning makes motion to adjourn, seconded by Charles Campbell. Meeting adjourns at 11:58 A.M.

DLR: All newly elected officers were sworn in by P. Hasson.

A true record of the March 5, 2024, Annual Town Meeting, to the best of our ability.

Attest: Diane L. Rainey, Town Clerk Paul Doton, Moderator Rock Webster,
Selectman