

Woodford School District
Annual School Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2017- Unapproved

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Mike Charette at 8:00 pm. He invited the Woodford School representatives to present their presentation.

Principal, Sandi Foster, announced that the students are doing very well and are above other schools in the state. Melissa Chauncey presented a slide show displaying the activities the students were involved in during the year. Also presented was a graph showing how Woodford students were in comparison to other students. Sandy also announced that even after leaving high school, Woodford students are continuing to thrive and be recognized for scholastic efforts.

Mike read the warning as posted:

Article I: To hear the reports of the School Board and other officials of the district and take action thereon.

Motion by Betty Charette to approve the article, 2nd by Tom Slee. Discussion followed. Dick Frantz explained that normally the school has a fund balance to offset the tax rate. Unfortunately, this year there were unanticipated costs. These costs included work that had to be done to the leach field, frozen pipes that had to be addressed, floors that needed to be replaced and the boiler system being switched from oil to propane in order to reduce heating expenses. The school still receives the small school grant and federal impact aid. The budget increased for the school by 8%. Part of this 8% increase is in a pre-k class for 3 year olds for \$30,000. State mandated programs are driving to increase budgets for the school. However, we need to remember that this budget includes middle school and high school students. Compared to other schools Woodford's students' costs are lower than other districts and one of the lowest in Vermont. There is a lot of uncertainty as to how Act 46 will affect Woodford School. The goal of this act is to consolidate schools and save taxpayers money. If the school loses the small school grant and impact aid then Woodford School will have a very hard time continuing. Jim Culkeen stated that supervisory unions have voted to re-activate their study committee relating to Act 46. All in favor, **Motion Carries.**

Article II: To establish the annual salaries of the School Directors, Treasurer and School Clerk for FY18. (Salaries are shown in the proposed budget).

Motion by Betty Charette to approve the article, 2nd by Tom Slee. No discussion followed. All in favor, **Motion Carries.**

Article III: To hold public informational hearings on the articles to be voted by Australian ballot on March 7, 2017.

Motion by Betty Charette to approve the article, 2nd by Tom Slee. No discussion followed. All in favor, **Motion Carries.**

Article IV: To transact any other business found proper when met.

No other business, no discussion.

Motion by Betty Charette to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Tom Slee. No discussion followed. All in favor, **Motion Carries.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Submitted by,
Susan Wright
Woodford Town Clerk