

**Town of Woodford**  
**Annual Town Meeting Minutes**  
**March 05, 2018- Unapproved**

The Town business meeting was opened by Moderator Dick Frantz at 7:30 p.m. Approximately 15 residents were in attendance along with 4 visitors. Dick welcomed everyone in attendance. The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance. Dick recognized the select board members and the clerk for their continuous efforts to keep the town operating. Bill Botzow, state representative, was then invited to share information to those in attendance.

Bill expressed how much he enjoys coming to Woodford and thanked everyone for their continued support. He reminded everyone of the Bill Doyle's survey that he was leaving for anyone interested in completing one and would return to pick them up. This survey helps the legislation know how Vermonters feel about certain issues.

Bill also stated that he was leaving copies of his legislative report for anyone to take. This report gives information as to what the legislation is currently working on. A key proposal includes consumer protection. This bill regulates companies that you may not have a personal relationship with that buys and sells personal information of Vermont residents. The bill requires companies to identify who they are and to report annually of any breaches of personal information they have experienced. Also included in this bill is the ability for Vermonters to place and lift security freezes with credit reporting agencies for free. Another bill being discussed addresses work force development. The purpose is to develop and support the work force that Vermont businesses need and expand the training and education needed to strengthen this workforce throughout the State. The House Ways and Means has proposed an alternative way to fund education. An additional handout is available explaining H.911- Changes to Personal Income Tax and Education Finance System. He also stated that there are no bills other than Act 46 in regards to schools currently being proposed. He has asked that when proposing any new bills regarding schools to please look favorably at Woodford.

All thanked Bill for coming. Dick commented that Bill has attended many Woodford School Board meetings.

Dick proceeded with the business part of the meeting. He reviewed the guidelines for the meeting and reminded everyone that only registered voters can vote on the articles. He read the warning as posted.

ARTICLE 1: TO HEAR THE REPORTS OF THE AUDITORS.  
**Motion** by Chuck Suss, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Gahan. No discussion followed. All were in favor,  
**Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 2: TO DETERMINE IF THE TAXES SHALL BE PAID TO THE  
TREASURER OR A NON DEFINED COLLECTOR OF TAXES.  
**Motion** by Chuck Suss, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Gahan. No discussion followed. All were in favor,  
**Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 3: SHALL THE TOWN APPROPRIATE \$250 FOR THE  
VERMONT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING?  
**Motion** by Chuck Suss, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Gahan. No discussion followed. All were in favor,  
**Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 4: SHALL THE TOWN APPROPRIATE \$1,961 FOR THE BENNINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING?

**Motion** by Chuck Suss, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Gahan. No discussion followed. All were in favor, **Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 5: SHALL THE TOWN APPROPRIATE \$300 FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE BENNINGTON-RUTLAND OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL (BROC)?

**Motion** by Chuck Suss, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Gahan. No discussion followed. All were in favor, **Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 6: SHALL THE TOWN APPROPRIATE \$2,500 FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE BENNINGTON FREE LIBRARY?

**Motion** by Chuck Suss, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Gahan. Chuck stated that the Town needs a library. All were in favor, **Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 7: SHALL THE TOWN APPROPRIATE \$650 FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE BENNINGTON AREA VISITING NURSE AND HOSPICE?

**Motion** by Chuck Suss, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Slee. No discussion followed. All were in favor, **Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 8: SHALL THE TOWN APPROPRIATE \$100 FOR THE SUPPORT OF BENNINGTON COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER?

**Motion** by Chuck Suss, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Gahan. No discussion followed. All were in favor, **Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 9: SHALL THE TOWN APPROPRIATE \$250 FOR THE SUPPORT OF SOUTHWESTERN VERMONT COUNCIL ON AGING?

**Motion** by Mike Gahan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chuck Suss. No discussion followed. All were in favor, **Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 10: SHALL THE TOWN APPROPRIATE \$300 FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CENTER FOR RESTORATIVE JUSTICE (CRJ)?

**Motion** by Chuck Suss, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Gahan. No discussion followed. All were in favor, **Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 11: SHALL THE TOWN APPROPRIATE \$250 FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE BENNINGTON TUTORIAL CENTER?

**Motion** by Chuck Suss, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Gahan. No discussion followed. All were in favor, **Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 12: SHALL THE TOWN APPROPRIATE \$100 FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE VT. RURAL FIRE PROTECTION TASK FORCE?

**Motion** by Chuck Suss, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Gahan. No discussion followed. All were in favor,

**Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 13: SHALL THE TOWN APPROPRIATE \$100 FOR THE SUPPORT OF AMERICAN RED CROSS?

**Motion** by Chuck Suss, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Gahan. No discussion followed. All were in favor, **Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 14: SHALL THE TOWN APPROPRIATE \$500 FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM (RSVP)?

**Motion** by Chuck Suss, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Gahan. No discussion followed. All were in favor, **Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 15: SHALL THE TOWN SET THE DUE DATE FOR THE COLLECTION OF TAXES AS THE LAST DATE IN SEPTEMBER (THIS YEAR IT WILL BE SEPTEMBER 29, 2018)?

**Motion** by Mike Gahan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chuck Suss. No discussion followed. All were in favor, **Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 16: SHALL THE TOWN VOTE THE SALARIES FOR THE SELECT BOARD MEMBERS TO BE \$1230 EACH?

**Motion** by Chuck Suss, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Slee. No discussion followed. All were in favor, **Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 17: SHALL THE VOTERS APPROVE PART TIME SHERIFF DEPARTMENT COVERAGE WITH A SPENDING CAP OF \$11,000 PER YEAR? (NET AMOUNT IS COMPUTED BY: 12 MONTHS PAID TO SHERIFF'S DEPT. LESS 12 MONTHS OF FINES COLLECTED BY THE STATE AND GIVEN TO THE TOWN).

**Motion** by Wayne Tiff, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chuck Suss. No discussion followed. All were in favor, **Motion Carries.**

ARTICLE 18: TO CONDUCT ANY OTHER BUSINESS FOUND PROPER WHEN MET. (NO BINDING ACTION CAN BE TAKEN UNDER OTHER BUSINESS.)

Ryan stated that he would like to discuss the report of the auditors. He informed everyone that according to the Town Charter, an outside audit of the Town's finances has been completed. This audit will be reviewed by the select board, treasurer and clerk. He also stated that the Town's portfolio for the investment account is moving forward towards the goal to replace the money borrowed for the expenses created by Tropical Storm Irene.

There being no further business, **Motion** made by Ryan Thurber, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Slee. No discussion followed. All were in favor, **Motion Carries.**

Submitted by,  
Susan Wright  
Woodford Town Clerk