

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TOWN OF DANVILLE HELD MARCH 3, 2015

The Town of Danville Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 11:38 a.m. at the Danville School on Tuesday March 3, 2015.

The following Articles were voted on:

1. **To elect a Moderator.** - Selectboard Chair Michael K. Walsh invited nominations for Moderator. Dr. Thomas Ziobrowski was nominated by Jenness Ide . With no other nominations, the Clerk was instructed to cast one vote for Dr. Thomas Ziobrowski.

Michael K. Walsh then introduced the Board members and Mary Currier, the new Assistant to the Selectboard.

2. **To see if the Town will vote to accept the Town Report as printed for the year ending December 31, 2014.** – Winona Gadapee moved to accept the Town Report as printed. The article was seconded and voted in the affirmative.
3. **To elect a Town Clerk for a term of three years.** There was a nomination from E. Tobias Balivet to nominate Wendy Somers. With no other nominations, the Clerk was instructed to cast one vote in the name of Wendy Somers for Town Clerk.
4. **To elect a Town Treasurer for a term of three years.** There was a nomination from E. Tobias Balivet to nominate Wendy Somers. With no other nominations, the Clerk was instructed to cast one vote in the name of Wendy Somers for Town Treasurer.
5. **To elect a Selectman for a term of three years.** – Craig Vance nominated Angelo Incerpi for the term of three years. With no other nominations, the Clerk was instructed to cast one vote in the name of Angelo Incerpi for Selectman for the term of three years.
6. **To elect two Selectmen for a term of one year each.** - Tim Ide nominated Ken Linsley for the term of one year. With no other nominations, the Clerk was instructed to cast one vote in the name of Kenneth Linsley for Selectman for the term of one year.

Douglas Pastula then nominated Craig Vance for the second term of one year. With no other nominations, the Clerk was instructed to cast one vote in the name of Craig Vance for Selectman for the term of one year.

7. **To elect a Lister for a term of three years.** - Tim Ide nominated Gail Devereaux. With no other nominations, the Clerk was instructed to cast one vote in the name of Gail Devereaux for Lister, for the term of three years.
8. **To elect a Tax Collector.** - Town Clerk Wendy Somers, moved to amend Article 8 to read “to elect Delinquent Tax Collector”. The amendment was then seconded and voted in the affirmative. Craig Vance then nominated Edward Ledo as Delinquent Tax Collector. With no other nominations, the Clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for Edward Ledo for Delinquent Tax Collector.
9. **To elect one or more Town Grand Jurors.** – Toby Balivet nominated John Blackmore. With no other nominations, the Clerk was instructed to cast one vote in the name of John Blackmore for Town Grand Juror.

10. **To elect a Town Agent.** - E. Tobias Balivet was nominated. With no other nominations, the Clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for E. Tobias Balivet for Town Agent.
11. **To elect a Town Agent for Real Estate.** - Judith Corso and E. Tobias Balivet were nominated. A voice vote was taken and E. Tobias Balivet was elected Town Agent for Real Estate.
12. **“ Shall the voters authorize the elimination of the office of Town Auditor, with future audits to be provided by a certified public accountant, and all other auditor duties performed by others as directed by the Selectboard, in accordance with 17 V.S.A. § 2651b?” This vote requires a paper ballot.** – Jenness Ide moved the nomination, which was seconded. A paper ballot was called. With a vote of 125-5, the motion carried.
13. **To elect any other Town Officers.** - With no other Town Officers to be elected, the article was passed over.

The Moderator then moved to adjourn for lunch at 12:02 p.m. and reconvene at 12:50 p.m.

The Moderator reconvened at 12:52 p.m.

14. **“Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,700.00 to assist the Area Agency on Aging for Northeastern Vermont in providing services to senior citizens in the ensuing year?”** - John Blackmore moved the article, which was seconded. John Blackmore spoke on behalf of the agency. With no further discussion, the article carried.

Walt Smith moved to combine Articles 15 through 28, which was seconded. Barbara Fontaine moved to amend to remove Articles 17 and 24 from the original motion. The amendment failed on a voice vote. A paper ballot was requested, with the moderator advising that a two-thirds majority would be required to pass it. The vote favored the motion 61-53, but with less than the two-thirds majority, the motion failed.

15. **“Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to Catamount Film and Arts?”** - Sandy Hauserman moved the article as warned, which was seconded. With no discussion, the article carried.
16. **“Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,600.00 to Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice to be used in providing health care services?”** - Brian Keith moved the article as warned, which was seconded. With no discussion, the article carried.
17. **“Shall the town voters appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 to support the Danville Historical Society, an organization whose purpose is to collect items and information relating to Danville, to mark and maintain historic sites, to develop Danville-based programs and exhibits, to educate our citizens and assist them in research projects?”** Mildred LaBeur moved the article, which was seconded. Sharon Lakey requested permission for Danville Historical Society President Patricia Conly, who is a non-resident to speak on behalf of the organization. Patricia spoke of the many things they are doing. Barbara Fontaine requested financial information on the breakdown of the annual benefactor donations, which Patricia Conly addressed. With no further discussion, the article carried.
18. **“Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$38,913.60 to Danville Rescue Squad to assist in providing services to residents of the Town of Danville?”** – The article was moved by Kim Prior. Tim Ide opened discussion by requesting information on the relationship between the Town of Danville, Danville Rescue and Calx. Carmen Calkins requested information on how the annual subscriptions work related to the contract between Danville Rescue & Calx. Eric Bach addressed all related questions.

Craig Vance inquired about a capital equipment fund for future equipment purchases. Eric Bach stated that fund raising efforts and donations, along with grants, cover future equipment costs. Winona Gadapee spoke in regard to the fact that over the years, volunteer staff has dwindled. Loral Stanley and Craig Vance also supported the organization. With no further discussion, a paper ballot was called. With a vote of 104-9, the motion carried.

19. **“Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 to support the Danville Senior Action Center, Inc.?”** - Mildred LaBeur moved the article as warned, which was seconded. With no further discussion, the article was carried.
20. **“Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,196.00 for the support of the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium to provide services to residents of the Town?”** - Tracy Zschau moved the article as warned, which was seconded. Tracy then spoke on behalf of the organization. With no discussion, the article was carried.
21. **“Shall the Town of Danville vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$500.00 for the support of Kingdom Animal Shelter to provide services to residents of the Town? The funds will be used for the care of stray unwanted cats brought into the shelter including food/litter and veterinary care (including spay/neuter, vaccinations, and FeLV testing) to prepare them for adoption?”** Dan Lewis moved the article, which was seconded. With no further discussion, the article carried.
22. **“Shall the Town of Danville vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$2,306.00 for the support of Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, to provide psychiatric mental health services to residents of Caledonia, Essex and Orleans Counties?”** - Hollis Prior moved the article as warned, which was seconded. With no discussion, the article carried.
23. **“Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$750.00 to Northeast Kingdom Youth Services to support their work with youth and families in our community?”** - Walt Smith moved the article as warned, which was seconded. With no discussion, the article carried.
24. **“Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$28,000.00 to assist the Pope Memorial Library in meeting its operational expenses?”** - Jenness Ide moved the article which was seconded. With no discussion, the article carried.
25. **“Shall the town voters authorize expenditures for the not-for-profit service agency RSVP (Retired Senior and Volunteer Program) in the amount of \$675.00?”** - Walt Smith moved the article as warned, which was seconded. With no further discussion, the article was carried.
26. **“Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,400.00 for services provided by Rural Community Transportation (“RCT”) to residents who live in Danville?”** - Sandy Hauserman moved the article as warned, which was seconded. With no discussion, the article carried.
27. **“Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to assist the West Danville Community Club in maintaining Joe’s Pond Beach?”** - Walt Smith moved the article as warned, which was seconded. With no further discussion, the article was carried.
28. **“Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,200.00 to Umbrella, Inc. to be used in providing services to victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children, and families seeking child care and child care providers?”** - Walt Smith moved the article as warned, which was seconded. With no discussion, the article carried.

29. **“Shall the Town vote to adopt the proposed General Fund budget of \$665,736.00 for the ensuing year, and authorize the Selectboard to assess a general Town Tax in an amount sufficient to support the adopted budget?”**
(By Australian Ballot) – The Moderator opened the floor for discussion. Michael K. Walsh addressed the overall increase in the budget. With no additional discussion, the Moderator moved to the next article.
30. **“Shall the Town vote to adopt the proposed Town Highway budget of \$1,577,862.00 for the ensuing year, and authorize the Selectboard to assess a Town Highway Tax in an amount sufficient to support the adopted budget?”** (By Australian Ballot) – Michael K. Walsh stated there would be no change in property tax funds raised to the taxpayer for 2015. With no discussion, the Moderator moved to the next article.
31. **To see if the Town will vote to pay property taxes to the Town Treasurer on or before October 26, 2015.** – David Towle moved the article as warned, which was seconded. The article carried.
32. **To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to borrow money for the Town expenses and refund indebtedness not to exceed 90% of the anticipated taxes and to execute and deliver the note or notes of the Town therefore.** Walt Smith moved the article as warned, which was seconded. The article carried.
33. **“Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to apply for grants and to accept and expend grants or gifts for the use and benefit of the Town?”** – A motion was made by Walt Smith, which was seconded. The article was carried.
34. **To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.**

Michael K. Walsh acknowledged Kevin Gadapee for his 14 years of service with the town.

Tom Forster read a letter on the Ash Tree survey that is scheduled to be performed over the summer, to assess the impact on town highways to be caused by dying ash trees.

Robert Larose asked about the collection of trash on Saturdays. Douglas Pastula stated that the Board is currently working on an amended contract and would be meeting with TDL Waste Services in the near future.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was voted to adjourn at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Attest: Wendy M. Somers
Wendy M. Somers, Clerk

Approved: Thomas F. Ziobrowski
Dr. Thomas F. Ziobrowski
Moderator

Michael K. Walsh
Michael K. Walsh
Chairman of the Board