

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE  
DANVILLE TOWN MEETING HELD MARCH 3, 2020**

The Annual Town meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. at the Danville School on Tuesday, March 3, 2020. Terry Hoffer, Moderator, opened the meeting. Local Boy Scout members presented the Color Guard. Toby Balivet read the Civil Invocation. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the singing of the National Anthem by Denise Briggs.

Terry Hoffer read the rules of the meeting and then opened nominations for Moderator.

**1. To elect a Moderator**

**Nominated - Dr. Thomas Ziobrowski Moved by: Jenness Ide and Seconded**

With no other nominations, the clerk was instructed to cast one vote for Dr. Thomas Ziobrowski as Moderator for the term of one year.

**2. To see if the Town will vote to accept the Town Report as printed for the year ending December 31, 2019.**

**Moved by: David Houston and Seconded**

**Motion Carried by Voice Vote**

**3. To elect a Selectperson for a term of three years.**

**Nominated-Kenneth Linsley Moved by – Tim Ide and Seconded**

With no other nominations, the clerk was instructed to cast one vote for Kenneth Linsley as Selectperson for a term of three years.

**4. To elect two Selectpersons for a term of one year each.**

**Nominated-Henry Pearl Moved by – Tim Ide and Seconded**

With no other nominations, the clerk was instructed to cast one vote for Henry Pearl as Selectperson for a term of one year.

**Second one year term.**

**Nominated-Kristin Franson Moved by – Bruce Melendy and Seconded**

With no other nominations, the clerk was instructed to cast one vote for Kristin Franson as Selectperson for a term of one year.

**5. To elect a Lister for a term of three years.**

**Nominated-Marcia Pettigrew Moved by – Jenness Ide and Seconded**

With no other nominations, the clerk was instructed to cast one vote for Marcia Pettigrew as Lister for a term of three years.

**6. To elect a Delinquent Tax Collector.**

**Nominated-Edward Ledo Moved by – Toby Balivet and Seconded**

With no other nominations, the clerk was instructed to cast one vote for Edward Ledo as Delinquent Tax Collector for a term of one year.

**7. To elect a Town Agent.**

**Nominated-Toby Balivet**                      **Moved by – Wendy Somers and Seconded**

With no other nominations, the clerk was instructed to cast one vote for Toby Balivet as Town Agent for a term of one year.

**8. To elect a Town Agent for Real Estate.**

**Nominated-Toby Balivet**                      **Moved by – Wendy Somers and Seconded**

With no other nominations, the clerk was instructed to cast one vote for Toby Balivet as Town Agent for Real Estate for a term of one year.

**9. To elect any other Town Officers.**

**None - Article Passed Over**

**10. Shall the Town of Danville vote to raise, appropriate and expend \$2,600.00 to Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice to be used in providing health care services?**

**Moved by – Phyllis Thomas and Seconded**

**Motion Carried by Voice Vote**

**11. Shall the Town of Danville vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$500.00 to Catamount Film and Arts?**

**Moved by – Beth Williams and Seconded**

**Motion Carried by Voice Vote**

**12. Shall the Town of Danville vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$250.00 to The Community Restorative Justice for restorative cases, free legal clinic cases, and/or mediation cases which are referred from the town to the CRJC in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?**

**Moved by – Sandy Hauserman and Seconded**

**Motion Carried by Voice Vote**

**13. Shall the Town of Danville vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$5,000.00 to assist the Danville Senior Action Center in meeting its operational expenses?**

**Moved by – Jenny Green and Seconded**

**Motion Carried by Voice Vote**

**14. Shall the Town of Danville vote to raise, appropriate, and expend the sum of \$2,196.00 for the support of the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium to provide free unlimited admission to the residents of the Town?**

**Moved by – David Houston and Seconded**

**Motion Carried by Voice Vote**

**15. Shall the town of Danville vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$500.00 for the support of Upper Valley Habitat for Humanity in the Northeast Kingdom to provide services to residents of Danville?**

**Motioned by –Jeness Ide and Seconded**

**Motion Carried by Voice Vote**

Dan Swainbank spoke to the Article.

16. 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.

Moved by – Ruth Rubin and Seconded

Motion Carried by Voice Vote

17. Shall the Town of Danville vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$1,700.00 to assist the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging, in providing services to senior citizens in the ensuing year?

Moved by – David Houston and Seconded

Motion Carried by Voice Vote

18. 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 support the provision of 24 hour, 7 days a week emergency/crisis services to residents of the Town?

Moved by – Jane Kitchel and Seconded

Motion Carried by Voice Vote

19. Shall the Town of Danville vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$750.00 to Northeast Kingdom Youth Services to support their work with youth and families in our community?

Moved by – Michelle Douglas and Seconded

Motion Carried by Voice Vote

20. Shall the Town of Danville vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$28,000.00 to assist the Pope Memorial Library in meeting its operational expenses?

Moved by – Sandy Hauserman and Seconded

Motion Carried by Voice Vote

21. Shall the Town of Danville vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$1,400.00 for services provided by Rural Community Transportation (“RCT”) to residents who live in Danville?

Moved by – Mildred Labeur and Seconded

Motion Carried by Voice Vote

22. Shall the Town of Danville vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$1,200.00 to Umbrella, Inc., to serve victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children and families seeking child care and child care providers?

Moved by – Phyllis Thomas and Seconded

Motion Carried by Voice Vote

23. Shall the Town of Danville vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$1,000.00 to assist the West Danville Community Club with operating expenses for Joe’s Pond Beach?

Moved by – Deborah Stresing and Seconded

Motion Carried by Voice Vote

24. Shall the Town of Danville vote to adopt the proposed General Fund budget of \$720,495.00 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)

No Discussion - Moved to next Article

25. Shall the Town of Danville vote to adopt the proposed Town Highway budget of \$1,524,822.00 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)

Jennes Ide thanked the selectboard for being financially prudent of the budget and thanked Keith Gadapee for the great work the road crew does for the town.

No further discussion- Moved to next article.

26. Shall the Town of Danville vote to pay property taxes to the Town Treasurer on or before October 26, 2020 by 6:00 p.m.

Moved by – Jenness Ide and Seconded

Motion Carried by Voice Vote

27. Shall the Town of Danville vote to 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.

Moved by – David Houston and Seconded

Motion Carried by Voice Vote

28. Shall the Town of Danville 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?

Moved by – Sandy Hauserman and Seconded

Motion Carried by Voice Vote

29. Shall the Town of Danville vote to authorize the selectboard to appoint a constable (and at the selectboard's discretion appoint a second constable) under the provisions of 17 V.S.A §2651a? (By Australian Ballot)

2651a. Constables; appointment; removal.

(a)(1) A town may vote by Australian ballot at an annual meeting to authorize the selectboard to appoint a first constable, and if needed a second constable, in which case at least a first constable shall be appointed.

(2) A constable so appointed may be removed by the selectmen for just cause after notice and hearing.

(3) When a town votes to authorize the selectmen to appoint constables, the selectboard's authority to make such appointments shall remain in effect until the town rescinds that authority by the majority vote of the legal voters present and voting at an annual meeting, duly warned for that purpose.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) to the contrary, a vote to authorize the selectboard to appoint constables shall become effective only upon a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, if a written protest against the authorization is filed with the legislative body at least 15 days before the vote by at least five percent of the voters of the municipality.

(c) The authority to authorize the selectboard to appoint the constable as provided in this section shall extend to all towns except those that have a charter that specifically provides for the election or appointment of this office of constable.

Winona Gadapee asked if this was new this year. Kenneth Linsley stated it was to comply with state law. It was asked if there was anyone holding the position and what the duties are. Kenneth Linsley

stated the position was vacant at this time and the duties are primarily in regards to dog issues and other duties assigned by the selectboard.

**With No additional Discussion - Moved to next Article**

30. **Shall the Town of Danville enter into a communications union district (CUD) to be known as NEK Community Broadband, under the provisions of 30 V.S.A. §82., to bring a reliable and affordable, high-speed internet option to every residential and business address in the Northeast Kingdom.**

**Moved by – Jonathan Baker**

**Motion Seconded**

**Motion Carried by Voice Vote.**

Jonathan Baker then spoke to the article and the formation of the communications union district and why. Jenny Green & Deborah Marrier supported the need of reliable broadband in remote areas. Jane Kitchel spoke to the importance of joining the communication union district. With no more discussion the article was called.

31. **Shall the Town of Danville vote to fix the tax applicable to Danville Senior Citizens Housing, Inc. at 98 Grandview Avenue to eighty (80) percent of the annual tax for a period of ten years, under the provisions of 32 VSA §3840?**

**Kenneth Linsley then took over and read article 31.**

**Moved by –Dr. Thomas Ziobrowski and Seconded**

**Motion Carried by Voice Vote**

Dr. Thomas Ziobrowski then spoke to the article. He then amended the motion to change to 80% of the assessed value instead of 80% of the annual tax. The Amended Motion was seconded by Jenness Ide, and passed by voice vote. After a short discussion the amended article moved and the motion carried by voice vote.

32. **Shall the Town make the following statement of support?  
We, the citizens of Danville, strongly support the completion of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail. We urge the Governor and Legislature to jointly develop a plan that will ensure the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail is completed by 2025.**

**Motioned by – Sandy Hauserman and Seconded**

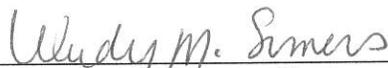
**Motion Carried by Voice Vote**

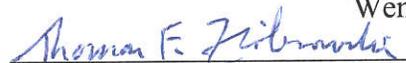
Kenneth Linsley, Jane Kitchel & Kitty Toll then spoke to the article.

33. **To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.**

Kenneth Linsley had the Selectboard members introduce themselves. Glenn Herrin updated everyone on the Planning Bylaw changes and upcoming meeting to discuss the changes. With no more discussion, David Houston motioned to adjourn which was seconded and passed by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Attest:

  
Wendy M. Somers, Clerk

Approved:   
Dr. Thomas Ziobrowski, Moderator

  
Kenneth Linsley, Selectboard Chair