

2015 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

February 28, 2015

Abstract of Minutes

The annual meeting of the Town School District, Town and Town Fire District #3 was held at the Bellows Falls Union High School Auditorium. Approximately 414 people were present.

The 2015 Citizen of the Year Award was presented to Beverly Major.

- Article 1:** Elected all Town Officers required by law and the vote of the Town (on March 3, 2015)
Number of names on the checklist: 2285
Number voting: 654
Results of Australian Ballot voting:
Town Moderator- Fletcher D. Proctor
School Moderator-Fletcher D. Proctor
Fire District Moderator- Fletcher D. Proctor
Town Clerk 3 yr. term - Alison Bigwood
Town Treasurer 3 yr. term – Alison Bigwood
Selectman, 3 yr. term- K. Sheldon Beebe
Selectman, 2 yr. term- Craig Allen
Lister-Vacant
Grand Juror (2) - Peter McH. Stamm, vacant
Town Agent- Fletcher D. Proctor
Commissioner, Campbell Fund (3) – M. Ellen Jones, Ila Mitchell, Karen Walter
Trustee, Campbell Fund, 3 yr. term – Michael S. Fawcett
School Director, 3 yr. term – Elise Manning (376), John Sciacca (253)
School Director, 2 yr. term – David Major (357), Molly Banik (281)
UHSD #27 Director – David M. Clark
Fire District #3 Prudential Cmte – Christopher J. Hackett
UHSD #27 Budget – Passed (Yes 440, No147)
River Valley Technical Center Budget – Passed (Yes 428, No 169)
Trustee of Public Funds, 3 yr. term – Michael Fawcett
- Article 2:** Voted to accept the reports of the Town School District Officers.
- Article 3:** Voted to authorize and instruct its School Directors and Treasurer to borrow money, if necessary, on the credit of the Town School District for its current expenses in anticipation of the collection of taxes and receipt of money due from state aid.
- Article 4:** Voted to pay Town School District Board Chair \$1100 per year, other Town School District Board members \$800 per year and the Town School District Clerk \$125 per District meeting.
- Article 5:** Voted to raise \$4,937,812.09 for the maintenance of Westminster Schools for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.
- Article 6:** Voted to not adopt its budget article or articles by Australian ballot.
- Article 7:** Transacted non-binding business. Comments:
Dan Axtell was thanked for his years of service on the Town School Board.

- Article 8:** Voted to accept the reports of the Town Officers.
- Article 9:** Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$130,000 for the Town Highway Equipment Reserve Fund.
- Article 10:** Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 for the Bridge Rehabilitation Reserve Fund.
- Article 11:** Voted pursuant VSA § 3832(7) to exempt from taxation for a period of five (5) years, the real estate of the Westminster Aqueduct Society.
- Article 12:** Voted pursuant to 32 VSA § 3840 to exempt from taxation for a period of five (5) years, the real estate of the Westminster Fire District #3.
- Article 13:** Voted pursuant to 32 VSA § 3832(7) to exempt from taxation for a period of five (5) years, the real estate of the Westminster Recreation Club, Inc.
- Article 14:** Voted to postpone indefinitely to purchase a parcel of land located off Goldies Road in Westminster for the purpose of supplying the Town with stone aggregate for the highway department at a sum of \$130,000 for approximately 53.4 acres.
- Article 15:** Voted to approve general fund expenditures of \$1,910,711 for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, of which \$1,535,341 will be raised by taxes and \$375,370 by non-tax revenues.
- Article 16:** Transacted non-binding business. Comments:
- . Nate Stoddard thanked for his service as Selectman.
 - . Road Crew thanked for their hard work.
 - . Green Up Day in May- Woody Fuller will Chair again.
 - . Community Improvement Funds are available. Woody resigned from that committee.
 - . Asked for approved minutes on the Town web-site
 - . Thank you to the microphone runners.
- Article 17:** Voted to accept the reports of the Town Fire District #3
- Article 18** Voted to authorize the Prudential Committee and Treasurer to borrow money, if necessary, to meet current expenses on the credit of the Fire District in anticipation of the collection of taxes and/or the receipt of any federal funds.
- Article 19:** Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$242,750 to pay the indebtedness and other general expenses of the Fire District for the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. Also to move from the Capital Reserve fund the sum of \$175,000 to purchase a water tank truck.
- Article 20:** Transacted non-binding business. Comments:
Chief Cole Streeter thanked for his kindness and being a benefit to the Town.
Thanks to all Firemen and their families.

Special thank you to Luke and Diane Bazin for their generous donation.