

TOWN of LANDGROVE Minutes 2017 Annual Town Meeting

Call to order at 6:08 pm

Lynn Eckhardt led the town in the pledge of allegiance to open Town Meeting, and all were welcomed by Selectboard Chair John Ogden who read the first article.

ARTICLE 1: To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year. Claudia Harris was nominated by Bobby Waite, seconded by Jon Bigelow and approved by the voters. Claudia went over rules, and asked non-voters to introduce themselves. Kim Eckhardt from the Collaborative spoke about their work preventing substance abuse in our teenagers and distributed their annual survey. Representative Linda Sullivan spoke about her work in Montpelier and encourages us all to contact her, attend her community meetings at Hapgood Store the first Sunday of each month 10:30 - 11:30am.

ARTICLE 2: Lynn moved the article, Bobby Waite 2nd To elect the following officers as required by law:

officer	term	candidate	move	second
Town Clerk	1 year	Chrystal Cleary	May Bigelow	Virginia LaPrade
Town Treasurer	1 year	Andrea Ogden	Sally Waite	Victoria Duffy
Selectboard Member	3 years	Tom Dibble	Sally Waite	Kim Eckhardt
Auditor	3 years	Mary English	Andrea Ogden	Sally Waite
Lister	3 years	Kim Eckhardt	Chuck Sweetman	Harry Lux
Cemetery Commissioner	5 years	May Bigelow	Clarence Nichols	Lynn Eckhardt
Cemetery Commissioner	1 year	Jay Snyder	Lynn Eckhardt	Clarence Nichols
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	1 year	Andrea Odgen	Anne McClaran	Bobby Waite
Grand Juror	1 year	Claudia Harris	Sally Waite	Harry Lux
Town Agent	1 year	John Hadden	Virginia LaPrade	Victoria Duffy
Constable	1 year	John Wiley, Jr.	May Bigelow	Chuck Sweetman
Trustee of Public Funds	3 years	Andrea Ogden	Victoria Duffy	Lynn Eckhardt

ARTICLE 3: To hear the reports of Town Officers and take proper action on the Auditors' report. Moved by Bobby Waite, Seconded by Michael Mole.

John Ogden spoke about the Selectboard report, thanked Treasurer Andrea Ogden and Town Clerk Chrystal Cleary for their hard work and answered some questions about the roads and repair grants. Greg praised Road Commissioner Steve Hall for cracking down on trucks driving on the roads when soft by posting limits and granting permission for passage of heavy vehicles when frozen or dry. Mr. Ogden asks all residents to make sure your fuel is topped off before thaw makes the roads too soft. Andrea Ogden reminds residents about tax filing and homestead filings, and that homestead filings are often missed when taxpayers file for an extension. School Director Jeff Cleary spoke about the Act 46 School Merger vote tomorrow. Motion to pass was made by Kim Eckhardt, 2nd by Jon Bigelow. Article 3 passes.

ARTICLE 4: To see whether the Town will appropriate \$15,000 to the Landgrove New Cemetery Stonewall Project. Moved: Victoria Duffy, Seconded: Anne McClaran. Clarence Nichols thanked all for donations that allowed the wall to be completed thus far and said that this final amount was the last bit to complete the wall. Harry Lux notes that last year's request was supposed to complete the wall and wonders why it didn't actually complete the wall. Clarence said the estimate was inconsistent (quoted in feet vs paid in hours) and there was additional tree work done and stump extraction. It is the Cemetery Commission's belief that this is indeed the final-FINAL request for town funds for the wall. Motion to approve: Sally Waite, 2nd by Harry Lux. Article 4 passes.

Dr Roger Fox and Elsie Smith are allowed to speak. Mountain Valley Medical Clinic board believes it is not necessary to ask for funding from the towns this year as it usually does to offset the burden of uncompensated care- for Landgrove this is \$3000. Due to the new partnership as part of Springfield Hospital MVMC receives Federal Funds to fund the clinic for uncompensated care. The funds may be still be given and donated to the equipment wish list.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will authorize its Selectboard to apply any surplus or unanticipated funds toward the proposed budget. Moved: Harry Lux Seconded: Kim Eckhardt. No discussion. Motion to Approve: Victoria Duffy, 2nd Kim Eckhardt. Article 5 passes.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to pay its taxes on real and personal property on or before October 1, 2017. Moved: Sally Waite, Harry Lux, no discussion. Motion to Approve: May Bigelow, 2nd Michael Morfit. Article 6 Passes.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise the budgeted monies necessary to pay Town expenses and obligations for the 2017 year. Moved: Kim Eckhardt, 2nd Anne McClaran. Andrea Ogden noted that West River Sports has requested no money this year, since middle school soccer has gone back into the School budget at Flood Brook School. May Bigelow asks if we might give more to Mental Health and Visiting Nurses- Andrea answers that those amounts are the specific requests made by those entities. The \$3000 item allocated for MVMC was discussed

as a possible donation to the clinic wish list, a motion is not needed to send this community appropriation, to remove the \$3000 would require an amendment to the budget.

Motion to Approve: Bobby Waite, Chuck Sweetman. Article 7 passes.

ARTICLE 8: To transact any other non-binding business proper to come before said meeting, not acted upon in the preceding articles. Virginia LaPrade asked if theres any progress on Town Garage. John and Greg described the parcels looked at and their various inadequacies. Suggestions are welcome. Moved: Jon Bigelow, Kim Eckhardt. There is no discussion. Motion to Approve: Chuck Sweetman, 2nd Michael Morfit. Article 8 passes.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will agree to meet in 2018 on the first Monday before the first Tuesday in March (March 5th) at 6pm for the annual Town Meeting. Moved: Michael Mole, Michael Morfit. No discussion. Motion to Approve: Chuck Sweetman, 2nd by Kim Eckhardt. Article 9 Passes. Sally Waite dislikes the evening Town Meeting but is outvoted.

Motion to Adjourn- Bobby Waite, 2nd Lynn Eckhardt. The 2017 Landgrove Town Meeting Adjourned at 7:44 pm

Respectfully Submitted by

Chrystal Cleary, Town Clerk

Moderator Claudia Harris

Selectboard:

Jeremiah Everts

Greg Eckhardt

John Ogden
