

11/13
2014

TOWN OF MONTGOMERY ANNUAL TOWN MEETING - 2014
Minutes

Selectboard Chairperson Scott Perry called the meeting to order @ 9:02AM. Scott explained the absence of Timothy Murphy and that he would be unavailable as Moderator for this meeting.—

1. Elect a Moderator for the ensuing year.

Pat Farmer nominated Morgan Daybell. No other nomination and w/o objections Scott Perry instructed the Town Clerk to cast one ballot to elect Morgan.

Morgan asked voters present to allow our Representative Cindy Weed to speak. Without objections Rep. Weed gave a brief legislative update regarding committees she is involved with.

2. Act on the reports of the Town Officers.

Scott Perry made corrections to the warning, Article 4f and g terms should go to 2019, and page 27 Report of Unreserved funds for 2013. Renee Patterson made a motion to accept the reports as amended and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

3. Shall the Town vote to appoint a Road Commissioner as provided in 17 V.S.A. §2651, if not, shall the Town elect a Road Commissioner as provided in 17 V.S.A. §2646(16)?

Scott Perry made a motion to appoint a Road Commissioner and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

4. Elect the remaining Town Officers as required by law:

(a) A Selectperson for a term of two years by ballot. (Sue Regan - term expires)

Wendy Howard nominated Susan Regan. Without objections Morgan instructed the Town Clerk to cast one ballot to re-elect Sue.

(b) A Selectperson for a term of three years by ballot. (Scott Perry - term expires)

Mark Brouillette nominated Scott Perry. Without objections Morgan instructed the Town Clerk to cast one ballot to re-elect Scott.

(c) A Lister for a term of three years by ballot. (Parma Jewett – term expires)

Wendy Howard nominated Parma Jewett. Without objections Morgan instructed the Town Clerk to cast one ballot to re-elect Parma.

(d) An Auditor for a term of three years by ballot. (Stacy St. Onge - term expires)

Mark Brouillette nominated Stacey St Onge. Without objections Morgan instructed the Town Clerk to cast one ballot to re-elect Stacey.

(e) An Agent to prosecute and defend suits in which the Town is interested for a term of one year. (Merle Van Gieson - term expires)

Marijke Dollois nominated Merle Van Gieson. Lynda Cluba nominated Barry Kade. Each candidate spoke on their own behalf. Barry Kade was elected by voice vote.

(f) A Cemetery Commissioner for the Village Cemetery Association for a five year term expiring 2019. (Vivian Deuso - term expires)

Sue Wilson nominated Vivian Deuso. Lynda Cluba nominated Chade Bartsch. Chade spoke regarding his interest in becoming involved in Town issues. Vivian was not present at this meeting. Chade was elected by voice vote.

(g) A Cemetery Commissioner for the Center Cemetery Association for a five year term expiring in 2019. (Annie Purrier - term expires)

Sue Wilson nominated Annie Purrier. Annie was re-elected by voice vote.

(h) A Library Trustee for a term of five years. (Cheryl Wisell - term expires)

Carol Farmer nominated Cheryl Wisell. Cheryl was re-elected by voice vote.

(i) A Library Trustee for a term of five years (Bill Harlow – term expires)

Marijke Dollois nominated Bill Harlow, Bill declined. Marijke Dollois nominated Susan Baddorf, Susan was not on the checklist. Deanna Robitaille nominated Chade Bartsch. Carol Farmer nominated Marijke Dollois. Each candidate spoke on their own behalf. Marijke was elected by voice vote.

(j) A Fire Commissioner for a term of two years. (William Baker Sr. - term expires)

Marijke Dollois nominated William Baker Sr. Billy was re-elected by voice vote.

(k) A First Constable for a term of one year. (Morgan Daybell resigned. Brent Godin appointed - term expires)

Mark Brouillette nominated Brent Godin. Brent was elected by voice vote.

(l) A Planning Commission member for a term of three years. (Parma Jewett - term expires)

Lynda Cluba nominated Chade Bartsch. Barry Kade nominted Parm Jewett, Parma declined. Bill Harlow nominated George “Joe” Sherman. Each spoke. George “Joe” was elected by voice vote.

(m) A Planning Commission member for a term of three years. (Roberta Baker - term expires)

Barry Kade nominated Roberta Baker. Roberta was re-elected by voice vote.

(n) A Deliquent Tax Collector for a term of three years. (Anita Woodward - term expires)

Scott Perry nominated Anita Woodward. Anita was re-elected by voice vote.

(o) One or more Grand Jurors for a term of one year. (Selectboard - term expires)

Pat Farmer nominated the Selectboard. The Selectboard was re-elected by voice vote.

5. Shall the voters approve the use of the Ambulance Replacement Reserve fund for the following additional purposes: to pay for equipment upgrades for the existing ambulance, to pay for ambulance services from other providers in the event the Montgomery Ambulance Service can no longer provide service.

Merle Van Gieson moved as written and was seconded. Kevin Scheffler indicated that if more volunteers were not forth coming to help operate the Rescue Squad the current 5 members would not be able to sustain the current schedule. Motion approved by voice vote.

6. Shall the Town vote the following sums of money to defray expenses in the ensuing year for:

(a) Fire Department: 2013 - 20,000; 2014 - 28,000. **Sue Wilson moved to appropriate \$28,000 and was seconded. William Baker Sr explained the increase was due to the need to purchase updated clothing with a matching grant of up to \$5,000. Motion passed by voice vote.**

(b) Rescue Department: 2013 - \$18,525; 2014 - \$26,500. **Mark Brouillette moved to appropriate \$26,500 and was seconded. Scott Perry explained the authority given in Article 5 was not the intention to fund the RescueDept. Motion passed by voice vote.**

(c) Summer Roads: 2013 - \$55,000, 2014 - \$50,000. **Mark Bouillette moved to appropriate \$50,000 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

(d) Winter Roads: 2013 - \$40,000; 2014 - \$50,000. **Mark Bouillette moved to appropriate \$50,000 and was seconded. After much debate, Scott Perry moved to call the question and was seconded. The motion to cease debate and call the question passed by voice vote. Motion passed by voice vote.**

(e) Machinery Replacement: 2013 - \$10,000; 2014 – same. **Mark Bouillette moved to appropriate \$10,000 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

(f) Bridges: 2013 - \$10,000; 2014 – same. **Mark Bouillette moved to appropriate \$10,000 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

(g) Library Operating Expenses & Payroll: 2013 - 14,966; 2014 - same. **George “Joe” Sherman moved to appropriate \$14,966 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

(h) Building Capital Improvement & Maintenance: 2013 - 15,000; 2014 – same. **Barry Kade moved to appropriate \$15,000 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

(i) Recreation Department: 2013 - \$18,000; 2014 – same. **Deanna Robitaille moved to appropriate \$18,000 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

(j) Reappraisal Fund: 2013 - \$4,000; 2014 – 12,000. **Lynda Cluba moved to appropriate \$12,000 and was seconded. Brent Godin moved to call the question and was seconded. The motion to cease debate and call the question passed by voice vote. Motion passed by voice vote.**

(k) Montgomery Youth Center: 2013 - \$6,000; 2014 - \$3,000. **Mark Bouillette moved to appropriate \$3,000 and was seconded. Deanna Robitaille expressed the desire to continue the Teen Center another year and by using reserved funds along with this year's appropriation. Motion passed by voice vote.**

(l) Conservation Commission: 2013 - \$500; 2014 - same. **Sue Wilson moved to appropriate \$500 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

7. Shall the Town vote the following sums of money for the Town Officers as requested?

(a) Town Clerk: 2013 - \$16,000; 2014 – same. **Mark Brouillette moved to pay \$16,000 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

(b) Town Treasurer: 2013 - \$12,000; 2014 – same. **Lynda Cluba moved to pay \$13,000 and was seconded. Carol Farmer moved to amend to \$12,000 and was seconded. Motion to amend failed by voice vote. Mark Brouillette moved to call the question and was seconded. Motion to cease debate passed by voice vote. Motion to pay \$13,000 passed by voice vote.**

(c) Each Selectboard Member: 2013 - \$1,000; 2014 – same. **Scott Perry moved to pay each member \$1000 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

(d) Listers: 2013 – 1st year members \$14.00/hour, 2nd year members \$15.00/hr; 2014 - same. **Sharon Perry moved to pay 1st yr members \$14/hr and 2nd yr members \$15/hr and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

(e) Auditors: 2013 – 1st year members – \$9.00/hour, 2nd year members \$10.00/hr; 2014 - same. **Sharon Perry moved to pay 1st yr members \$9/hr and 2nd yr members \$10/hr and was seconded. Renee Patterson moved to amend to 1st yr members \$14/hr and 2nd yr members \$15/hr and was seconded. Brent Godin moved to call the question and was seconded. Motion to call question passed by voice vote. Motion to amend to \$14 and \$15/hr failed by voice vote. Original motion to pay 1st yr members \$9/hr and 2nd yr members \$10/hr passed by voice vote.**

(f) Board of Civil Authority: 2013 - \$9.00/hour; 2014 - same. **Sharon Perry moved to pay \$9/hr and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

(g) All duly elected or appointed Town Officers the IRS allowance for mileage for travel as part of official duties and reimbursement of expenses related to those duties if approved in advance by the appropriate governing body or duly appointed board? **Sharon Perry moved as read and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.**

Scott Perry made a motion to suspend the rules and take up Article 10 out of order and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

10. Shall the Town vote to authorize the use of an electronic vote tabulator? The tabulator will be supplied for free from the State and requires a programming fee by a State certified programmer, of approximately \$1,000 each election it is used.

Sue Wilson made a motion to authorize the use of an electronic vote tabulator and was seconded. Scott Perry explained that this was an article last year and more information was requested from voters to make a decision. He also explained that this is not a voting machine, a paper ballot is still used and that it is an optical scanner tallies the ballots. Without objections the representative of the State certified programmer Joel Bergeron explained and answered questions. Merle Van Gieson moved to call the question and was seconded. Motion to cease debate passed by voice vote. Motion to authorize use of an electronic vote tabulator failed by voice vote.

8. Shall the Town of Montgomery appropriate the following sums of money as requested by the specified agencies?

Sharon Perry moved to suspend the rules and approve Article 8(a)-(h) as one article as written and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote. Merle made a motion to amend (h) to \$500 and was seconded. Amendment failed by voice vote. Motion to approve Article 8(a)-(h) as written passed by voice vote.

- (a) Champlain Valley Agency on Aging for Meals on Wheels, Case Management, Transportation, and the toll-free Senior HelpLine: 2013 - \$1,800; 2014 - same.
- (b) Franklin County Home Health Agency, Inc: 2013 - \$1,440. ; 2014 - same.
- (c) Franklin County Industrial Development Corporation: 2013 - \$500; 2014 - same.
- (d) Hazen's Notch Association's Campership Fund: This money would be applied towards the cost of sending three or more children from Montgomery to the Hazen's Notch Association's Summer Camp. 2013 - \$1000; 2014 - same.
- (e) Green Up Day Vermont. 2013 - \$100; 2014 - same.
- (f) Mississquoi River Basin Association. 2013 - \$500; 2014 - same.
- (g) Green Mountain Transit Authority - 2013 - \$598; 2014 - same.
- (h) Franklin County Humane Society - 2013 - \$500; 2014 - \$300.

9. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$ 379,961 for Contingent Selectboard? 2013 - \$326,273.

Sharon Perry moved to appropriate \$380,961 and was seconded. The increase due to the \$1000 increase in the Treasurer's salary as approved in Article 7(b). Motion passed by voice vote.

11. Are the voters in favor of selling, or otherwise disposing of, the former Hectorville Covered Bridge now in storage?

Paul Nichols moved to authorize the Selectboard to dispose of the Hectorville Covered Bridge and was seconded. Discussion included the condition of the bridge, cost of removal and possible uses, recommendation to organize a committee to determine best course of action. Mark Brouillette moved to call the question and was seconded. Motion to cease debate passed by voice vote. Motion to authorize the Selectboard to dispose of the Hectorville Covered Bridge passed by hand count Yes – 28, No - 17.

12. To do any other business proper to be done at said meeting.

Other business discussed mailing town reports or notice of availability.

Opening Hazen's Notch Road to ATV use.

Protecting our ridgeline from wind turbines.

Maintenance of village sidewalks.

State Bank. Barry Kade moved that "we call on the Vermont State Legislature to create and license a State Bank to accept deposits from the state and municipal governments and facilitate the work of the Vermont Economic Development Agency, the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation, the Vermont Housing Finance Agency and the Municipal Bond Bank by supplying the capital for loans to students, homeowners, municipalities and small businesses to make Vermont economically stable, self-reliant and successful" and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

Scott Perry moved to adjourn at 12:38pm and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

A true record this 10th day of March, 2014.

SIGNED

Attest: 
 Attest: 
 Attest: 
 Scott S Perry, Selectboard