

TOWN OF GRANVILLE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
March 5, 2019
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The Moderator called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

1. To elect a Moderator for the year ensuing. Mary Falcon nominated Roger Stauss. Mary Falcon moved to cease nominations Motion was seconded by Victoria Crowne. All were in favor with none opposed. One ballot cast for **Roger Stauss** as Moderator.

2. To elect all Town Officers as required by law. Eileen Dague made the motion to move the article and was seconded by Kate Stauss.

a. To elect a Selectperson for a 3 year term ending 2022. Sean Linskey nominated Bruce Hyde. Thomas Hammond nominated Cheryl Sargeant. Danial Sargeant made the motion to cease nominations. Motion was seconded. All were in favor of cease nominations. Kate Stauss requested to hear from both nominees before voting. Cheryl and Bruce each gave a background of experience they could bring to the position of Selectperson. The Moderator then called for a vote by paper ballot. A total of 44 ballots were cast with Cheryl 17 and Bruce 27. Elected was **Bruce Hyde** as Selectperson.

b. To elect a Delinquent Tax Collector for a 1 year term ending 2020. Nancy Demers nominated Nancy Needham. Motion was made and seconded to cease nominations. All were in favor to cease nominations. One ballot was cast for **Nancy Needham** as Delinquent Tax Collector.

c. To elect a Town Grand Juror for a 1 year term ending 2020. Steve Werner nominated Mike Eramo. Kate Stauss made the motion to cease nominations and was seconded. All were in favor to cease nominations. One ballot was cast for **Mike Eramo** as Town Grand Juror.

d. To elect an Agent to Prosecute & Defend Suits for a 1 year term ending 2020. Mike Eramo nominated Diane Eramo. Kate Stauss moved to cease nominations. Motion was seconded by Victoria Crowne. All were in favor to cease nominations. One ballot was cast for **Diane Eramo** as Agent to Prosecute & Defend Suits.

e. To elect a Cemetery Commissioner for a 3 year term ending 2022. Nancy Demers nominated Cheryl Sargeant. Kate Stauss made the motion to cease nominations and was seconded. One ballot cast for **Cheryl Sargeant** as Cemetery Commissioner.

f. To elect a Cemetery Commissioner to complete a term ending 2020. Eileen Dague nominated Kate Stauss. Victoria Crowne made the motion to cease nominations and was seconded. All were in favor to cease nominations. One ballot was cast for **Kate Stauss** as Cemetery Commissioner.

g. To elect a Second Constable for a 1 year term ending 2020. Juli Reiderer nominated Bret Stickney. Kate Stauss made the motion to cease nominations and was seconded. All were in favor to cease nominations. **Bret Stickney** was elected as Second Constable.

h. To elect a Town Clerk for a 3 year term ending 2022. Marilyn Doughrity nominated Cheryl Sargeant. Mike Eramo nominated Kathy Werner. Kate Stauss made the motion to cease nominations and was seconded. From the floor, Danial Sargeant called for a vote by paper ballot. A total of 43 ballots were cast with Cheryl 15 and Kathy 28. **Kathy Werner** elected as Town Clerk.

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i. To elect a Town Treasurer for a 3 year tem ending 2022. Steve Werner nominated Kathy Werner. Danial Sargeant made the motion to cease nominations and was seconded. One ballot cast for **Kathy Werner** as Town Treasurer.

3. To hear the Selectmen's report and act upon same. The Selectmen's Report was given by Bruce Hyde and with a follow up by Jim Dague. From the floor, Thomas Hammond asked if Norm Arseneault will continue as the Town Liasion with FEMA and was answered with a yes. Norm, who was not present at the meeting, received a round of applause. Questions came from the floor followed by discussion, included the topic of the Road Commissioner position. The topic of returning to electing Town Auditors was reported by Jim prompting a discussion from the floor.

4. Shall the Town of Granville vote to accept the budget of \$ 385,882 to meet expenses and liabilities of the Town and authorize the Selectboard to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same? Danial Sargeant made the motion to move the article and Cheryl Sargeant seconded. From the floor, Michael Cunningham asked about the increase to the winter sand budget and was answered by Jim Dague. Danial Sargeant from the GVFD, Inc. requested the line item budget #3020 be reduced by \$1,225.00. The proposed Granville appropriation requested by the Fire Department should read \$18,906.00 (see page 51 of the 2019 Town Report). Danial made the motion to amend line item #3020 to \$18,906 and Jim Lormand seconded the motion. All were in favor. Robin Hagerman asked about the increase to the Constable's supply budget while the Constable salary decreased. Mrak Belise explained it was for more shared expenses with the Town of Rochester. Kate Stauss made the motion to amend the budget from \$385,882 down to \$384,657. Motion was seconded by Victoria Crowne. All were in favor. Kate made the motion to call the question as amended and the motion was seconded by Victoria Crowne. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 4 Passed as Amended to \$384,657.**

5. Shall the Town of Granville raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to increase the Municipal Capital Investment Fund (budget account no. 612). Melissa Kosmaczewsk made the motion to move the article and was seconded. Mary Falcon questioned the meaning of the article. Jim answered the question is whether to raise funds to increase the Municipal Fund for maintaining the town building, with the example of the Town Hall Steeple as in need of repair. Kate Stauss made the motion to call the article and was seconded by Nancy Demers. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 5 Passed.**

6. Shall the Town of Granville establish a reserve fund to be called the Fire Station Reserve Fund to be used for fire station modifications and renovations in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2804? Melissa Kosmaczewsk made the motion to move the article and was seconded by Danial Sargeant. Kate Stauss asked if the article could be explained to the voters. Bruce Hyde read from the Vermont Statute, that in order to establish a new reserve fund that it would require the voter's approval at a Town Meeting. The following article 7, will ask the question as to the amount of funds to be raised for the established reserve fund. Kate Stauss made the motion to call the article and was seconded. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 6 Passed.**

7. Shall the Town of Granville raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to fund the Fire Station Reserve Fund? Juli Reiderer asked to hear from the Fire Department. Fire Chief Danial Sargeant explained how the funds would be used to make improvements to the fire station such as insulating, building repairs, create an office space, to design a septic system and to hire an architect for addressing these issues. The amount being requested is their starting point. Kate asked if any estimates been obtained? Dan said the amount is based on a guess.

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Robin Hagerman asked if matching grants have been applied for. Dan said the building is a municipal building so the incorporated FD is unable to apply for grants for a building they don't own. Steve Werner made the motion to amend the amount from \$20,000 to \$5,000. Motion was seconded by Mike Eramo. All were in favor. Kate Stauss made the motion to call the article as amended and was seconded by Juli Reiderer. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 7 Passed as Amended to \$5,000.**

8. Shall the Town of Granville vote to increase the capital account for the purpose of covering expenses for fire protection in East Granville by the amount of \$500.00? Kate Stauss made the motion to call the article and was seconded by Juli Reiderer. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 8 Passed.**

9. Shall the Town of Granville vote to apply any surplus from the Highway budget's current fiscal year into the Highway Capital Investment Fund? Kate Stauss made the motion to call the article and was seconded by Juli Reiderer. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 9 Passed.**

10. Shall the Town of Granville vote to exempt the Corner School Resource Center from property taxes for five fiscal years beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2024? Robin Hagerman made the motion to call the article and was seconded by Kate Stauss. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 10 Passed.**

11. Shall the Town of Granville vote to authorize property taxes to be paid to the Treasurer as provided by law, in four (4) equal installments, with due dates being; August 15, November 18, February 18 and May 18? Bruce Hyde explained the dates were slightly changed to fall on days when the Town Clerk is open during regular office hours. Kate Stauss made the motion to call the article and was seconded. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 11 Passed.**

12. Shall the Town of Granville vote that overdue taxes will bear interest at a rate of one percent (1%) per month or fraction thereof for the first three months and thereafter one and one-half percent (1 1/2%) per month or fraction thereof from the due date of such tax pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5136? Cheryl Sargeant made the motion to call the article and was seconded by Kate Stauss. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 12 Passed.**

13. To transact any other business to come before said meeting. Kate Stauss made the motion to move the article and was seconded. Mark Belisle gave notice there will be a Rabies Clinic held at the Hancock Fire Station on March 20 from 5 pm until 7 pm. The Granville Town Clerk will be available at the clinic to also register all dogs for 2019.

14. To adjourn said meeting. The Moderator adjourned the meeting at 9:52 pm.

Signed by:

Roger Stauss/Moderator

Bruce Hyde/ Selectboard Chairman

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Annual Town Meeting
Official Warning
March 5, 2019