

TOWN OF GRANVILLE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
March 1, 2016

Town Moderator Roger Stauss called the meeting to Order at 6:05 pm. Select person Michele Brown made the motion to recess the meeting until 6:30 pm. Motion was seconded by Helen Dillion. Majority voted from the floor in favor of the motion.

At 6:30 the Moderator called the meeting to order. Representative Patsy French was introduced and given permission to speak and answer question regarding State business.

The meeting then went to Town business:

Article 1: To elect a Moderator for the year ensuing. Kristi Fuller nominated Roger Stauss which was seconded by Michele Brown. Kristi Fuller moved to close nominations, which was seconded by Michele Brown. A vote was taken all in favor of electing Roger Stauss as moderator. All were in favor with none opposed.

Article 2: Shall the Town of Granville vote to change the term of the Town Treasurer from a 1 year term to a three year term as provided under 17 V.S.A Statute 2646(3) effective March 1, 2016? Kristi Fuller moved to call the question which was seconded by Michele Brown. Judy Wood moved to accept the Article which was seconded by Michele Brown. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 2 passed.**

Article 3: To elect all Town Officers as required by law:

a. To elect a Selectperson for a 3 year term ending 2019. Janet Brown nominated Cheryl Sargeant seconded by Michele Brown. Mike Eramo nominated Bruce Hyde seconded by Vivian Branschofsky. Diane Eramo moved to close nominations. Motion was seconded. Judy Wood moved to vote by paper ballot which was seconded by Kristi Fuller. Results: Cheryl 19 Bruce 36. **Bruce Hyde was elected to a three year term as Selectperson.**

b. To elect a Town Clerk for a 3 year term ending 2017. Judy Wood Nominated Kathy Werner which was seconded by Vivian Branschofsky. Kristy Fuller nominated Cheryl Sargeant which was seconded by Janet Brown. Julie Redierer moved to close nominations, which was seconded. Judy Wood moved to vote by paper ballot which was seconded. Results: Cheryl 15 Kathy 39. **Kathy Werner was elected to a three year term as Town Clerk.**

c. To elect a Treasurer for a 3 year term. Michele Brown nominated Kathy Werner which was seconded. Greg Hagerman moved to close nominations, which was seconded. **One ballot was cast for Kathy Werner as Treasurer for a three year term.**

d. To elect a Delinquent Tax Collector for a 1 year term ending 2017. Vivian Branschofsky nominated Nancy Needham, which was seconded by Kate Stauss. Julie R moved to close nominations which were seconded. **One ballot was cast for Nancy Needham as Delinquent Tax Collector.**

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- e. To elect a Town Grand Juror for a 1 year term ending in 2017.** Greg Hagerman moved to nominate Mike Eramo, which was seconded. Kristi Fuller moved to close nominations, which was seconded. **One ballot was cast for Mike Eramo as Town Juror.**
- f. To elect an Agent to Prosecute & Defend Suits for a 1 year term ending 2017.** Bruce Hyde nominated Diane Eramo, which was seconded. Richard Poole moved to close nominations, which was seconded. **One ballot was cast for Diane Eramo as Agent to Prosecute & Defend suits.**
- g. To elect a Cemetery Commissioner for a 3 year term ending in 2019.** Kate Stauss moved to nominate Cheryl Sergeant, which was seconded. Bruce Hyde moved to close nominations, which was seconded. **One ballot was cast for Cheryl Sargeant as Cemetery Commissioner.**
- h. To elect a First Constable for a 2 year term ending 2017.** Kevin Bagley nominated Mark Belise, which was seconded by Jamie Dague. Julie moved to close nominations, which was seconded. **One ballot was cast for Mark Be lisle as First Constable.**
- i. To elect a Second Constable for a 1 year term ending 2017.** Michele Brown nominated Brett Stickney, which was seconded by Danial sergeant. Kate Stauss moved to close nominations, which was seconded. **One ballot was cast for Brett Stickney as First Constable.**

4. To hear the Selectmen's report and act upon the same. Michele Brown read the Selectmen's Report. Victoria Crowne moved to accept the report, which was seconded by Vivian Branschofsky. All in favor with none opposed. **Article 4 passed.**

5. To Hear the Outside Auditors report and act upon the same. Victoria moved to accept Article 5, which was seconded. All in favor with none opposed. **Article 5 passed.**

6. Shall the Town of Granville vote to accept the budget of \$360,787.00 to meet all expenses and liabilities of the Town and authorize the select board to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same?

Michele Brown motioned to bring the question to the floor which was seconded by Vivian Branschofsky. All in favor with none opposed. Greg Hagerman commented for more service on back roads from Constable. Doug Fuller requested that the Constable submit a report in next year's Town Report. Victoria Crowne motioned to amend the Road Commissioner's mileage budget to \$600 which was seconded. Michele Brown motioned to end discussion on the Road Commissioner's mileage budget which was seconded. All were in favor with none opposed. The Moderator called for a vote on the amendment by a show of hands. Amendment failed. Christian Jacquith questioned the Town Clerk/Treasurer's salary. The Town Clerk stated she did not request nor suggested she needed more hours. Michele Brown said she would like to see the office open until 6:00pm once a month. Kristie Fuller would like to see the office open until 5:30 pm. Doug Fuller said he would like to see the office open from 11:00 till 6:00 pm. Cheryl Sargeant/Selectboard Chair stated the clerk needed to stay open later to receive FedEx deliveries. The Clerk stated this was false. Deliveries already arrive during regular office hours and stated again she never suggested a need for longer hours.

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Greg Hagerman questioned the winter budget. Road Commissioner Kevin Bagley stated that the proposed winter sand budget was part of a plan to purchase 100 yard per year. Doug Fuller stated he would like to see a five year highway plan in the Town Report. A motion came from the floor to amend the Highway budget to last years which was not seconded. Norm Arseneault stated that there was a new line item in the Highway Budget of \$20,000.00 toward paying off the FEMA loan. Greg Hagerman motioned to amend the Highway budget from \$179,500 to \$149,500. Vivian Branschofsky seconded the motion. Kate Stauss motioned to call the question which was seconded by Nancy Demers. Majority voted Nay with a few in favor. Motion was defeated. Steve Mishkit motioned to amend the sand budget to \$13,000. Kate Stauss motioned to call the question which was seconded, The Moderator called for a vote by raising a hand. Majority voted Nay with a few in favor. Motion was defeated. Bruce Hyde questioned the Fire Departments increase for emergency services. Fire Chief Dan Sargeant explained the need for additional pagers. He also took questions from the floor about the Rescue Services and reminded people to install smoke detectors. Kate Stauss motioned to end the discussion which was seconded by Nancy Demers. The Moderator then asked for a vote on Article 6 as it is written. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 6 passed.**

7. Shall the Town of Granville vote to increase the Capital Account for Building Maintenance in the amount of \$5,000.00 for the purpose of painting the Municipal Complex? Michele Brown motioned to move the article which was seconded by Kate Stauss. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 7 passed.**

8. Shall the Town of Granville vote to increase the Capital Account for the Plunkton Road culvert grant in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the purpose of meeting the Town's 10% Local match for current and future grants? Vivian Branschofsky motioned to move the article. Motion was seconded by Christian Jacquith. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 8 passed.**

9. Shall the Town of Granville vote to increase the Conservation Commission Capital Account in the amount of \$2,500.00 for the purpose of meeting the 10% Local match for current and future grants? Victoria Crowne motioned to move the article which was seconded by Vivian Branschofsky. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 9 passed.**

10. Shall the Town of Granville vote to increase the Capital Account for the purpose of covering expenses for Fire Protection in East Granville in the amount of \$500.00? Michele Brown motioned to move the article which was seconded by Vivian Branschofsky. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 10 passed.**

11. Shall the Town of Granville vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow money in anticipation of paying back the Town's share of FEMA expenses? Christian Jacquith motioned to move the article which was seconded by Michele Brown. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 11 passed.**

12. Shall the Town of Granville vote to provide a property tax exemption for Earthen Vessels, LLC as provided for under 32 V.S.A. Section 3802? Michele Brown motioned to bring the question to the floor which was seconded by Kate Stauss. Question came from the floor if anyone was there to represent the

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organization. Cheryl Sargeant stated no. Sean Linskey motioned to move the article which was seconded by Michele Brown. All opposed and none were in favor. **Article 12 Defeated.**

13. Shall the Town of Granville vote to apply any surplus from the Highway Budget's current fiscal year into the Highway Capital Investment Fund? Mary Falcon motioned to move the article which was seconded by Nancy Demers. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 13 passed.**

14. Shall the Town of Granville vote to authorize taxes to be paid to the Treasurer as provided by law, in four (4) equal installments, with dates being : August 15, November 15, February 15 and May 15? Kate Stauss motioned to accept the article as written which was seconded by Dan Sargeant. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 14 passed.**

15. Shall the Town of Granville vote to authorize to levy an interest charge on all late installment payments of one percent (1%) per month or fraction thereof for the first three months and thereafter one-one half percent or fraction thereof, either from the due date of the last installment or from the due date of each installment, as provided for in 32 V.S.A. 4873? Christian Jacquith motioned to move the article which was seconded by Vivian Branschofsky. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 15 passed.**

16. To transact any other business to come before said meeting. Constable Mark Belise stated there will be a rabies clinic at the Hancock Fire Department on March 9. The Town Clerk will be available to license dogs too. If anyone would like to be appointed to the Conservation Commission can contact the Select board. New members are welcome. Nancy Demers motioned to move the article which was seconded. All in favor with none opposed. **Article 16 passed.**

17. To adjourn said meeting. Michele motioned to adjourn the meeting which was seconded. All in favor and none opposed. **Meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted By:

Kathy Werner

Town Clerk/Treasurer



Roger Stauss/Moderator



Bruce Hyde/ Selectboard Chair