

**TOWN OF GRANVILLE
ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES**

March 7, 2017

Subject to Final Approval

Moderator Mary Falcon called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm. Mary read the first Article and announced she was stepping down from serving another term as School Moderator.

1. To elect a moderator for the next year ensuing. Roger Stauss nominated Cheryl Sargeant which was seconded by Kate Stauss. With no other nominations made, the moderator called for a voice vote of approval to elect Cheryl as moderator. All were in favor with none opposed. **One ballot was cast for Cheryl Sargeant as School Moderator.**

2. To hear and act upon the reports of the Town Scholl Officers. Chair of the School Board Bruce Hyde, gave the school directors report. There were a number of comments from the floor describing frustration with the proposed increase to the education tax rate and frustration with the increased burden on tax payers. Question came from the floor related to the cost of tuitions, assurance of accuracy of student residency, the upswing in student numbers and the dramatic increase to per pupil equalization rate. Questions were answered by Bruce Hyde/Chair and Superintendent Bruce Labs and Business Manager Donna Benoit. The School Board has proposed a merger with the Town of Hancock School District into one district that was also discussed. If the merger passes, the tax payers would benefit with a lower tax rate next year and a lower per pupil spending (equalization rate). A vote on the proposal will be held on April 11, 2017 with an information meeting held on the day before, on April 10th. Three school directors to serve on the new district board of directors will also be elected by ballot on April 11th. Roger Stauss moved to accept the Town Officers Report which was seconded by Vivian Branschofsky. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 2 passed.**

3. Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$764,433.00, which the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the year ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending at \$18,350.64 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 33.81% higher than spending for the current year. Roger Stauss moved to call the question which was seconded by Kristi Fuller. Roger Stauss moved to accept Article 3 which was seconded by Vivian Branschofsky. **Article 3 passed**

4. To elect a Town School Treasurer for a term of one year. Nancy Demers nominated Kathy Werner which was seconded by Norm Arseneault. Kristi Fuller moved to close nominations. All were in favor with none opposed. **One ballot cast for Kathy Werner as Town School District Treasurer.**

5. To elect a school board director for a three (3) year term starting March 2017 and ending March 2020. Kate Stauss nominated Erika Linskey. Nancy Demers moved to close nominations which were seconded by Vivian Branschofsky. All were in favor and none opposed. **One ballot cast for Erika Linskey as school director.**

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6. Shall the 2018 Granville Town School District meeting be Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 5:30 pm?

Vivian Branschofsky moved to call the question which was seconded by Nancy Demers. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 6 passed.**

7. Shall the voters authorize the School Board to borrow by issuance of bonds, or notes, not in excess of anticipated revenue for the current school year and the upcoming school year? Vivian Branschofsky moved to call the question which was seconded by Nancy Demers. All were in favor with none opposed. **Article 7 passed.**

8. To discuss Act146 and the proposed merger with the Hancock Town School District. Bruce explained the meaning of the article. A Special Information Meeting will take place on April 10th and the voting on the question will take place on April 11th. School Directors for the new board will also be elected on the same day. To have your name added to the ballot a petition must be filed with the town Clerk no later than March 10th. Erika Linskey and Trina Service both said they plan to submit a petition. Juli Reiderer volunteered to run for a third seat on the board. The election polls will be open for voting at 7 am until 7 pm. Absentee ballots will also be made available. Norm Arseneault thanked the board for all their hand work on behalf of the town of Granville. Roger moved close discussion which was seconded. **Article 8 passed.**

9. To do any necessary and proper business. Roger moved to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Richard Poole. All were in favor with none opposed. **Meeting Adjourned at 6:30 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted By:
Kathy Werner
Town Clerk/Treasurer

Cheryl Sargeant/School District Moderator

Bruce Hyde/School Director Chair