

TOWN OF GRANVILLE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
May 17, 2022

After an introduction and explanation of Roberts Rules and 5 minutes per person to speak to an article, the meeting was then called to order at 6:02 pm.

1. To elect a Moderator for the year ensuing. Judy Wood nominated Roger and Kate Stauss seconded. The moderator called for a voice vote to elect Roger Stauss as moderator. All were in favor with none opposed. **Roger Stauss elected as Moderator.**

2. To elect all Town Officers as required by law. Motion was made by Judy Wood to move the article and the motion was seconded by Kate Stauss. All were in favor.

a. To elect a Selectperson for a 3 year term ending 2025. Kevin Bagley nominated Bruce Hyde and Mike Cunningham seconded. Shawn Dougherty nominated Dan Sargeant and Marilyn Dougherty seconded. Jim Dague moved to close nominations and was seconded by Nancy Demers. Motion made for a paper ballot and seconded. **Bruce Hyde received 38 votes and Dan Sargeant received 13 votes; Bruce Hyde elected as Selectperson.**

b. To elect a Town Clerk for a 3 year term ending 2025. Marilyn Dougherty nominated Cheryl L. Sargeant and Judy Wood seconded. All were in favor to elect **Cheryl L. Sargeant as Town Clerk.**

c. To elect a Town Treasurer for a 3 year term ending 2025. Robin Haggerman nominated Nancy Needham and Nancy Demers seconded. All were in favor to elect **Nancy Needham as Town Treasurer.**

d. To elect a Third Auditor for a 3 year term ending 2025. Robin Haggerman nominated Roger Stauss and Bruce Hyde seconded. All were in favor to elect **Roger Stauss as Third Auditor.**

e. To elect a First Constable for a 3 year term ending 2025. Kevin nominated Mark Belisle and Danielle Cutting seconded. Judy Wood moved to Table the vote until after the vote on Article #2 and Kristie Fuller seconded. All were in favor of the motion to Table the vote.

f. To elect a Second Constable for a 1 year term ending 2023. Mark Belisle nominated Jeff Lumbra and Cheryl L. Sargeant seconded. All were in favor to elect **Jeff Lumbra as Second Constable.**

g. To elect a Delinquent Tax Collector for a 1 year term ending 2021. Nancy Demers nominated Nancy Needham and Robin Haggerman seconded. Douglas Fuller asked if it would be a conflict with the Town Treasurer and if it could be rolled into 1 position. Bruce indicated that it never came up. **All were in favor of electing Nancy Needham as Delinquent Tax Collector.**

h. To elect a Third Cemetery Commissioner for a 3 year term ending 2025. Kate Stauss nominated Cheryl L. Sargeant and Judy Wood seconded. **All were in favor of electing Cheryl L. Sargeant as Third Cemetery Commissioner.**

2. Shall the Town of Granville vote to prohibit Constables from exercising any law enforcement authority pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 1936(a)? Judy Wood moved the question and Marilyn Dougherty seconded. Judy Wood asked to read a statement; the petition was submitted due to cost and not available. Vermont State Police are our primary providers as stated in the Constable's Report. We have reduced hours and increased equipment costs. Judy would like to see a plain old constable with no law enforcement authority. Mark Belisle indicated he became certified in 1985 and that in 2012 the State mandated certifications; he carries a commercial insurance policy that is reason for increase. After a lengthy discussion over speeding enforcement and law enforcement James Dague called the question and Judy Wood seconded. Judy Wood asked for a paper ballot. **Yes in favor to prohibit law enforcement; 19 votes and No, not in favor 28 votes the NO votes have it.**

1.e. To elect a First Constable for a 3 year term ending 2025. Kevin Bagley made the motion to nominate Mark Belisle and Kenneth Bagley seconded. **All were in favor of electing Mark Belisle as First Constable.**

3. Shall the Town of Granville vote to accept the budget of \$377,064.00 to meet expenses and liabilities of the Town and authorize the Selectboard to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same? Mark Belisle made the motion to move the article. Motion was seconded by Kevin Bagley. James Dague inquired about the Road Commissioner's Report and problems with road cuts and diesel costs. Bruce Hyde indicated remiss on the report and further explained the Town has a surplus to rollover into the Highway Account. Douglas Fuller asked if there was a plan to do paving on Post Office Hill Road, Maston Hill Road and Buffalo Farm Road. Judy Wood would like to at least fix the pot holes. Victoria Crowne motioned to move the question and Judy Wood seconded. **All were in favor; Article 3 passed.**

4. Shall the Town of Granville vote to authorize the Treasurer to apply any surplus remaining in the Highway Budget's current fiscal year into the Highway Capital Investment Fund? Victoria Crowne made the motion to authorize and Judy Wood seconded. **All were in favor; Article 4 passed.**

5. Shall the Town of Granville vote to increase the Highway Capital Investment Fund in the amount of \$6,000 for the purpose of repaving town roads? Kate Stauss moved the question and Judy Wood seconded. After some discussion Kate Stauss called the question and Judy Wood seconded. **All were in favor; Article 5 passed.**

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6. Shall the Town of Granville vote to increase the equipment fund for the Town Constable in the amount of \$1,500? Kate Stauss moved the question and Judy Wood seconded. Judy asked why? Mark indicated he needed to replace 2 outdated radios and cannot get grants because he was using his personal vehicle. Victoria Crowne asked why he could not purchase used; Mark will look into. Kevin Bagley called the question and Judy Wood seconded. **All were in favor; Article 6 passed.**

7. Shall the Town of Granville use the Conservation Commission Capital Investment Funds in line item 613 of approximately \$3,200 for improvements to the playground behind the Town Hall and/or improvements to Granville Commons? Victoria Crowne and Michael Cunningham asked why? Bruce indicated that they have not met in 2 years and would actually like for them to take the lead in the projects. After some discussion Kate Stauss called the question and Victoria Crowne seconded. **All were in favor; Article 7 passed.**

8. Shall the Town of Granville borrow up to \$100,000 to be paid back in no more than 5 years, to reopen Buffalo Farm Road as a Class 3 road? Kate Stauss moved the question and Judy Wood seconded. Douglas Fuller asked for an explanation. Bruce indicated issues to open as a Class 2 after Irene and has heard from residents and emergency services they would like the road open again. Norman Arseneault former FEMA Coordinator spoke indicating it first started sliding prior to Irene and had GeoDesign come in to test the soils and it would cost \$1 to \$2 Million to fix and it is still sliding it was 100 feet wide now 400 feet and \$100,000 will not even cover the expense. After further discussion from property owners Judy Wood called the question and Victoria Crowne seconded. **All not in favor; Article 8 did not pass.**

9. Shall the Town of Granville vote to appropriate \$500.00 to the Corner School Resource Center of Granville VT in support of its community programs this year? Kate Stauss called the question and Judy Wood seconded. **All were in favor; Article 9 passed.**

10. Shall the Town of Granville vote to exempt the Moss Glen Grange from property taxes for five fiscal years beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2027? Kate Stauss called the question and Judy Wood seconded. **All were in favor; Article 10 passed.**

11. Shall the Town of Granville vote to permit the operation of cannabis retailers and integrated licensees, subject to such municipal ordinance and regulation as the Town Selectboard may lawfully adopt and implement? Kate Stauss moved the question and Judy Wood seconded. After a brief discussion Nancy Demers called the question and Judy Wood seconded. **All were in favor; Article 11 passed.**

12. 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 17, November 17, February 17 and May 17? Judy Wood moved to call the question and was seconded by Kate Stauss. **All were in favor; Article 12 passed.**

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13. 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? Bruce Hyde made the motion to call the question and was seconded by Kristie Fuller. All were in favor; Article 13 passed.

THE FOLLOWING IS AN ADVISORY NON BINDING ARTICLE:

14. Shall the Town of Granville vote to support the Granville Selectboard's adoption of a Telecommunications Ordinance as Recommended in the 2019 Town Plan and pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 2291 Enumeration of Powers (19). Bruce Hyde explained that this was a petitioned article and the Planning Commission did not approve the way it was written and brought it to the Selectboard. Kate Stauss made the motion to call the question and James Dague seconded. Judy Wood asked for a show of hands. 12 No votes and 5 Yes votes; Article 14 did not pass.

15. To transact any other business to come before said meeting. Kristie Fuller asked the Selectboard to fix the playground.

16. To adjourn said meeting. James Dague made the motion to adjourn and Roger Stauss seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.



Bruce Hyde / Selectboard Chairman



Roger Stauss / Moderator