

## TOWN OF EAST MONTPELIER ANNUAL MEETING

March 5, 2019

The legal voters of the Town of East Montpelier, Vermont were hereby warned to meet at the East Montpelier Elementary School in said Town on Tuesday, the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) day of March, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. to transact the following business and to vote by Australian Ballot from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on those Articles so noted:

The Town Portion of the Annual meeting followed the East Montpelier Elementary School meeting this year and was called to order at 11:46 a.m. by Moderator, Michael Duane.

**ARTICLE 1: To elect all necessary officers for the ensuing year (to be voted by Australian Ballot).** Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

### **Election Results:**

Town Moderator, 1-year term

**Elected: Michael Duane [350 votes]**

Selectboard Member, 3-year term

**Elected: Carl Etnier [313 votes]**

Selectboard Member, 2-year term

**Elected: Kimberly A Swasey [342 votes]**

Lister, 3-year term

**Elected: Chris Racanelli [329 votes]**

Auditor, 3-year term

**Elected: Deborah Fillion [327 votes]**

First Constable, 1-year term

**Elected: Sandy F. Conti [356 votes]**

Second Constable, 1-year term

**No candidate**

Cemetery Commissioner, 5-year term

**No candidate**

Planning Commissioner, 3-year term

**Elected: Julie Potter [316 votes]**

Planning Commissioner, 3-year term

**Elected: Zachary Sullivan [309 votes]**

Planning Commissioner, 3-year term

**Elected: Kim Watson [328 votes]**

**ARTICLE 2: To hear the reports of several Town Officers and to act thereon.**

Upon being properly moved and seconded, Mr. Gardner reviewed the highlights of the Selectboard report. He urged people to attend upcoming hearings on the proposed zoning changes. Mr. Gardner advised that the road crew is working to align stormwater drainage with state clean water guidelines. He also spoke about the purchase and use of a new mower to help with invasive species and better roadside management.

The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 12:09 p.m. by the Moderator.

The meeting re-convened at 1:14 p.m.

Mr. Gardner continued with the report of the Selectboard. Town Garage improvement will be taken up this year. Mr. Gardner indicated that good capitol planning has enabled the Selectboard to keep the budget in line. The municipal budget this year shows a 1.3% increase. The Selectboard thanked all employees and volunteers for their efforts. There were no further questions, and Article 2 was closed.

**ARTICLE 3: Shall the Town raise the sum of \$1,749,764 as proposed by the Selectboard, for laying out and repairing highways and for other necessary Town expenses for fiscal year 2020 (July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020) (to be voted by Australian Ballot.)**

There were no questions regarding the town budget.

**Election Result: Passed [340 yes; 46 no]**

**ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town raise the sum of \$42,022 for Kellogg-Hubbard Library for the support of the Kellogg-Hubbard Library? (To be voted by Australian Ballot)**

Ms. Biggs, the East Montpelier representative to the Library, spoke about the funding formula and library programs supported by the Article. There was no discussion, and the Article was closed by the Moderator.

**Election Result: Passed [286 yes; 97 no]**

**ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town authorize all property taxes for the fiscal year 2020 to be paid to the Treasurer, without discount in two installments and received by the Town Treasurer at the East Montpelier Municipal Building as follows: The first installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM Friday, November 15, 2019 and the second installment will be due on or before 5:00 PM Friday, May 15, 2020.**

After being properly moved and seconded, there was discussion relative to income levels. There being no further questions, a voice vote was held and the Article was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town, as authorized by 18 V.S.A. §5381, place the care and management of public burial grounds back under the charge of the Selectboard and eliminate the East Montpelier Cemetery Commission.**

After being properly moved and seconded, current members of the Cemetery Commission spoke relative to the work that has been done in the past and voiced concerns about work being performed properly if this change is enacted. A motion was made and seconded to postpone the article for one year, and discussion ensued. The question was called to end discussion, but two-thirds vote was not evident. It was explained that the intent of the current Selectboard is that cemetery work continue as it does currently. Mr. Gardner noted that the purpose of the Article is to resolve possible conflict of interest and worker's compensation insurance issues. Motion made to call the question to stop debate on the motion to postpone. The motion carried. The question was called to delay the vote for one year. The motion failed. The question was called and Article 6 was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE 7 Shall the Town raise the sum of \$17,250 for the East Montpelier Cemetery Commission for the support and maintenance of Town cemeteries during fiscal year 2020. If the Town approves Article 6 to eliminate the Cemetery Commission, this appropriation, if approved, will be shifted to the Town's general fund for the same purpose, but now under the control of the Selectboard.**

The Article was moved and seconded. Mr. Morey requested budget line items for this budget in next year's Town Report. The question was called and the Article was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town raise the sum of \$5,000 for the Land Conservation Fund.**

The Article was moved and seconded. There was a question regarding the fund balance, which was answered on another page in the Town Report. The Article was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town raise the sum of \$4,000 for the Four Corners Schoolhouse Association for operating expenses during fiscal year 2020.**

The Article was moved and seconded. The community was encouraged to use this facility, and upon voice vote, the Article was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town raise the sum of \$6,000 for the East Montpelier Signpost to provide for the production and mailing of six issues of the East Montpelier Signpost for each East Montpelier resident household and non-resident property owner during fiscal year 2020.**

The Article was moved and seconded. There was no discussion. After voice vote, the Article was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town raise the sum of \$4,000 for East Montpelier Trails, Inc. for the enhancement, development, and maintenance of the trail network in East Montpelier during fiscal year 2020.**

The Article was made and seconded. There was no discussion. After voice vote, the Article was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town raise the sum of \$8,000 for the Montpelier Senior Activity Center for operating expenses during fiscal year 2020.**

The Article was made and seconded. There was no discussion. After voice vote, the Article was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town raise the sum of \$6,000 for Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice for operating expenses during fiscal year 2020.**

The Article was made and seconded. There was brief discussion. After voice vote, the Article was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town raise the sum of \$8,333 as its fiscal year 2020 share of the annual ongoing cost of providing the Green Mountain Transit Agency commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, State and Federal funds, and rider fares.**

The Article was made and seconded. There was a question, which was answered. After voice vote, the Article was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town raise the amounts listed below as recommended by the Town’s Funding Request Study Committee, or what other amounts, for the following organizations for fiscal year 2020.**

American Red Cross	\$ 250
Big Heavy World	\$ 250
Capstone Community Action	\$ 500
Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	\$ 750
Central Vermont Council on Aging	\$ 1,875
Central Vermont Habitat for Humanity	\$ 250
Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center	\$ 1,000
Circle	\$ 675
Community Harvest of Central VT	\$ 250
Downstreet Housing & Community Development	\$ 150

<b>East Montpelier Community Connections</b>	<b>\$ 2,500</b>
<b>Family Center of Washington County</b>	<b>\$ 500</b>
<b>Friends of the Winooski River</b>	<b>\$ 200</b>
<b>Girls/Boyz First Mentoring</b>	<b>\$ 300</b>
<b>Good Beginnings of Central VT</b>	<b>\$ 300</b>
<b>Good Samaritan Haven</b>	<b>\$ 750</b>
<b>Green Mountain Transit</b>	<b>\$ 1,366</b>
<b>Green Up Vermont</b>	<b>\$ 150</b>
<b>Home Share Now</b>	<b>\$ 800</b>
<b>North Branch Nature Center</b>	<b>\$ 750</b>
<b>Onion River Food Shelf</b>	<b>\$ 1,000</b>
<b>OUR House of Central VT</b>	<b>\$ 250</b>
<b>People’s Health and Wellness Clinic</b>	<b>\$ 1,250</b>
<b>Prevent Child Abuse Vermont</b>	<b>\$ 300</b>
<b>Project Independence</b>	<b>\$ 125</b>
<b>Sexual Assault Crisis Team</b>	<b>\$ 250</b>
<b>Twin Valley Senior Center</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>
<b>T. W. Wood Gallery</b>	<b>\$ 500</b>
<b>Vermont Association for the Blind &amp; Visually Impaired</b>	<b>\$ 150</b>
<b>Vermont CARES</b>	<b>\$ 150</b>
<b>Vermont Center for Independent Living</b>	<b>\$ 250</b>
<b>Vermont Family Network</b>	<b>\$ 100</b>
<b>Washington County Diversion Program</b>	<b>\$ 600</b>
<b>Washington County Mental Health Services</b>	<b>\$ 800</b>
<b>Washington County Youth Service Bureau</b>	<b>\$ 400</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$23,691</b>

The Article was made and seconded. There was brief discussion and clarification. After voice vote, the Article was **ADOPTED**.

**ARTICLE 16: To transact any other business that may properly come before the meeting.**

Charles Johnson asked about the wisdom of continuing Town Forums due to low attendance.

Renée Carpenter asked if Rally Day restricted funds could be unrestricted and used by the Friends of Coburn Pond. Because it was not warned and is funding related, this matter could not come before the town for consideration at this time. The Selectboard will take the matter under consideration.

Ms. Carpenter also solicited volunteers for the East Montpelier Senior Living Initiative (EMSLI) board.

There being no further business and upon proper motion and second, the meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m. by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosie Laquerre, Town Clerk.

**Town Meeting minutes of March 5, 2019 approved by:**

**East Montpelier Selectboard Board Members**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Seth Gardner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gene Troia

\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Willis

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carl Etnier

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kimberly Swasey

**East Montpelier Town Moderator**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael O Duane

**East Montpelier Town Clerk**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rosie Laquerre

Received for Recording:

East Montpelier Town Clerk's Office this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ AD at \_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_ AM

**Attest: Rosie Laquerre - Town Clerk**