

**Town of Montgomery
Annual Town Meeting Minutes – 2015**

Moderator, Richard Morgan Daybell, called the meeting to order at 9:00AM.

1) Elect a Moderator for the ensuing year.

Patrick Farmer nominated Timothy Murphy. No other nominations were made. Timothy was elected by voice vote.

The Moderator, hearing no objections, opened the floor to Scott Perry for presentations.

Scott reported that the full Selectboard was not in attendance because one of the members, Carol McGregor, had suffered from an accident at home and remained in the hospital. Scott summarized visits that he and others have had with Carol and his wishes for her speedy recovery.

Scott acknowledged the Friday, February 27th fire just beyond the town line at the English Rose Inn. Though in Westfield, this was a loss to our community as well. Scott also acknowledged the Fire and Rescue Departments for their response and service at this event.

Scott recognized Renee Patterson for her years of service to the Town as Clerk & Treasurer since March 2003. Scott presented Renee with the traditional, engraved trunnel and a bouquet of flowers. Renee thanked Scott and the attendees for their support throughout her tenure.

Scott made a motion to suspend the rules to allow for discussion concerning the two Australian ballot items. Without objection, the rules were suspended. Scott, Wendy Howard, and Susan Regan addressed the attendees regarding the Proposed New Town Office facility. Discussion ensued regarding both articles.

The Moderator warned that polls would open for voting on both ballot items at 10:00am and that Representative Larry Fiske had arrived. With no objection, Representative Fiske addressed the attendees regarding his time, activities and concerns in Montpelier.

2) Accept the reports of the Town Officers.

Scott made a motion to accept the reports and was seconded. Scott made a motion to make the following correction: Pg 31 article 8e, change wages from \$9.15 and \$10.15 to \$9.00 and \$10.00. Merle Van Gieson made a motion to correct article 4g to read (Barry Kade – term expires). Discussion regarding items not covered under this Article ensued. The question was called and was seconded. Motion to call the question passed by two-thirds voice vote. The reports, as amended, were accepted by voice vote.

3) Shall the town vote to appoint a Road Commissioner as provided in 17 V.S.A. §2651, if not, shall the Town elect a Road Commissioner as provided in 17 V.S.A. §2646(16)?

Sharon Perry made a motion to appoint and motion was seconded. Following discussion, Suzanne Wilson moved to call the question and was seconded. Motion to appoint the Road Commissioner was approved by voice vote.

4) Elect the remaining town officers as required by law.

a. A Town Clerk for a term of three years by ballot. (Renee Patterson resigned, Deanna-Dee Robitaille appointed, term expires)

Sharon Perry nominated Deanna-Dee Robitaille. No other nominations were made and Darren Drevik moved to close. The Moderator, without objection, instructed the Town Clerk to cast one ballot for Deanna-Dee Robitaille.

b. A Town Treasurer for a term of three years by ballot. (Renee Patterson resigned, Deanna-Dee Robitaille appointed, term expires)

Sharon Perry nominated Deanna-Dee Robitaille. No other nominations were made and Darren Drevik moved to close. The Moderator, without objection, instructed the Town Clerk to cast one ballot for Deanna-Dee Robitaille.

c. A Selectman for a term of two years by ballot. (Carol McGregor – term expires)

Sharon Perry nominated Carol McGregor, Paul Nichols nominated Thomas Stanley. Carol McGregor won re-election to a two-year term as Selectman by a vote of 56-31

d. A Selectman for a term of three years by ballot. (Mark Brouillette – term expires)

Sharon Perry nominated Mark Brouillette. No other nominations were made. The Moderator, without objection, instructed the Town Clerk to cast one ballot re-electing Mark Brouillette.

e. A Lister for a term of three years by ballot. (Lynda Cluba – term expires)

Mark Brouillette nominated Lynda Cluba. No other nominations were made. The Moderator, without objection, instructed the Town Clerk to cast one ballot re-electing Lynda Cluba.

f. An Auditor for a term of three years by ballot. (Carol Farmer – term expires)

Carol Farmer nominated Susan Baddorf. No other nominations were made. The Moderator, without objection, instructed the Town Clerk to cast one ballot electing Susan Baddorf.

- g. **An Agent to prosecute and defend suits in which the Town is interested for a term of one year. (Barry Kade – term expires)**
Wendy Howard nominated Barry Kade. Paul Nichols nominated Merle Van Gieson. Barry Kade won re-election by a vote of 48-25.
- h. **A Cemetery Commissioner for the Village Cemetery Association for a five year term. (Jo Ann Lanphear – term expires)**
Lois Lumbra nominated Jo Ann Lanphear. Jo Ann was re-elected by voice vote.
- i. **A Cemetery Commissioner for the Center Cemetery Association for a five year term. (Lyndol Elkins – term expires)**
Sandra Bowman nominated Lyndol Elkins. Lyndol was re-elected by voice vote.
- j. **A Cemetery Commissioner for the Center Cemetery Association for the remainder of a five-year term. (Deanna-Dee Robitaille resigned – expires 2018)**
Deanna-Dee Robitaille nominated Lynda Cluba. Lynda was elected to a five-year term.

Scott Perry asked if, before electing Library Trustees, someone from the Library Board could explain the new changes to their By-laws regarding Trustee terms. Without objection, Elizabeth Crane explained why they moved from five-year terms to three-year terms.

- k. **A Library Trustee for a term of three years. (Beth Crane – term expires)**
Marijke Dollois nominated Claire Draper. Lynda Cluba nominated Elizabeth Crane. Elizabeth declined the nomination. Claire was elected by voice vote.
- l. **A Library Trustee for a term of three years. (Patty Perl – term expires)**
Suzanne Wilson nominated Patricia Perl. Patricia was re-elected by voice vote.
- m. **A Fire Commissioner for a term of two years. (Randy St. Onge – term expires)**
William Baker Sr. nominated Joseph Zartarian. Joseph was elected by voice vote.
- n. **A First Constable for a term of one year. (Brent Godin – term expires)**
Mark Brouillette nominated Brent Godin. Brent was re-elected by voice vote.
- o. **A Planning Commissioner for a term of three years. (Charlie Hancock – term expires)**
Tosca Smith nominated Charles Hancock. Charles was re-elected by voice vote.
- p. **A Planning Commissioner for a term of three years. (Barry Kade – term expires)**
Tosca Smith nominated Barry Kade. Barry was re-elected by a voice vote.
- q. **One of more Grand Jurors for a term of one year. (Selectboard – term expires)**
Suzanne Wilson nominated the Selectboard. The Selectboard was re-elected by voice vote.

- 5) **Shall the voters approve the increase in the number of Justices of the Peace from 5 to 7 as allowed as a result in the Town's population recorded in the 2010 Census? Towns with populations between 1,000 and 2,000 may choose to have 7 Justices of the Peace.**

Barry Kade made a motion to approve the article as written and was seconded. Marijke Dollois asked if it was necessary for our Town to have 7 Justices. Deanna-Dee Robitaille explained that Justices of the Peace serve as members of the BCA and why having more Justices would be beneficial. Without objection, the motion passed by voice vote.

George Sherman made a motion, and was seconded, to suspend the rules to discuss and act on Article 10 out of sequence. Motion passed by a two-thirds voice vote.

- 10) **Shall the Town appropriate \$11,261 as the town's portion of a feasibility study for the relocation and restoration of the Hectorville Bridge at the Recreation Center?**

George made a motion to approve as written and was seconded. Jacob Racusin, chairman of the Hectorville Bridge Committee made a short presentation. The motion passed by voice vote.

At 12:06, Scott Perry made a motion to recess for lunch. By hand vote, the motion failed 22-42.

- 6) **Shall the Town authorize the Seletctboard to move Teen Center Reserved Funds to the General Funds since the Center is no longer operating.**
Tosca Smith made a motion to approve as written and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.
- 7) **Shall the Town vote the following sums of money to defray expenses in the ensuing year for:**
 - a. **Fire Department: 2014 - \$28,000; 2015 - same**
William Baker Sr made a motion for \$28,000 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

- b. **Rescue Department: 2014 - \$26,500; 2015 - same**
Suzanne Wilson made a motion for \$26,500 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.
- c. **Machinery Replacement Fund: 2014 - \$10,000; 2015 - same**
Mark Brouillette made a motion for \$10,000 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.
- d. **Bridges: 2014 - \$10,000; 2015 - same**
Mark Brouillette made a motion for \$10,000 and was seconded. Motion passes by voice vote.
- e. **Library Operating Expenses & Payroll: 2014 - \$14,966; 2015 - \$18,917**
Suzanne Wilson made a motion for \$18,917 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.
- f. **Building Capital Improvement & Maintenance: 2014 - \$15,000; 2015 - same**
Suzanne Wilson made a motion for \$15,000 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.
- g. **Recreation Department: 2014 - \$18,000; 2015 - same**
Suzanne Wilson made a motion for \$18,000 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.
- h. **Reappraisal Fund: 2014 - \$12,000; 2015 - \$4,000**
Sarah Cushing made a motion for \$4,000 and was seconded. Barry Kade asked if the Listers believed that amount was sufficient. Parma Jewett, Chairman of the Board of Lister, confirmed the amount was sufficient as it is in addition to sums received from the State of Vermont and, having just completed a reappraisal, these funds are to begin rebuilding the reserve for future reappraisals. Motion passed by voice vote.
- i. **Conservation Commission: 2014 - \$500; 2015 - \$750**
Suzanne Wilson made a motion for \$750 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.
- j. **Emergency Management: 2014 - \$0; 2015 - \$6,340**
Suzanne Wilson made a motion for \$6,340 and was seconded. Tosca Smith asked what these funds are for. Brent Godin explained the funds will be used to install a Town-owned generator at the School for emergency and shelter purposes. Motion passed by voice vote.
- k. **Police / Constable: 2014 - \$0; 2015 - \$0**
Barry Kade made a motion to passover this article as it has no monetary value. Motion passed by two-thirds voice vote.

8) **Shall the Town vote for the following sums of money for the Town Officers as requested?**

- a. **Town Clerk: 2014 - \$16,000; 2015 - same**
Sarah Cushing made a motion for \$16,000 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.
- b. **Town Treasurer: 2014 - \$13,000; 2015 - same**
Suzanne Wilson made a motion for \$13,000 and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.
- c. **Each Selectboard Member: 2014 - \$1,000; 2015 - same**
Wendy Howard made a motion for \$1,000 for each member and was seconded. Barry Kade made a motion to amend to \$1,000 and "our thanks" and was seconded. Motion to amendment passed by voice vote. Motion, as amended, passed by voice vote.
- d. **Listers: 2014 – 1st year members \$14.00/hr, 2nd year members \$15.00/hr; 2015 – same**
Suzanne Wilson made a motion to approve as written and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.
- e. **Auditors: 2014 – 1st year members \$9.00/hr, 2nd year members \$10.00/hr; 2015 – same**
Scott Perry made a motion to approve as written and was seconded. Barry Kade made a motion to amend 1st year members to minimum wage and 2nd year members to minimum wage plus \$1.00. The amendment passed by voice vote. The motion, as amended, passed by voice vote.
- f. **Board of Civil Authority: 2014 - \$9.00; 2015 - \$9:15**
Suzanne Wilson made a motion for minimum wage and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.
- g. **All duly elected or appointed Town Officers the IRS allowance for mileage for travel as part of official duties and reimbursement of expenses related to those duties if approved in advance by the appropriate governing body or duly appointed board?**
Mark Brouillette made a motion to approve as written and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

9) **Shall the Town of Montgomery appropriate the following sums of money as requested by the specified agencies?**

Sharon Perry made a motion to suspend the rules and consider Article 9, a-g, together and was seconded. Motion passed by two-thirds voice vote.

Patrick Calecas made a motion to amend Article 9b to \$2,404 and was seconded. Patrick explained the benefit to the community received from Franklin County Home Health, Inc. Motion to amend passed by voice vote.

- a. Champlain Valley Agency on Aging for Meals on Wheels, Case Management, Transportation, and the toll-free Senior HelpLine: 2014 - \$1,800; 2015 – same
- b. Franklin County Home Health Agency, Inc.: 2014 - \$1,440; 2015 - \$2,402 (as amended)
- c. Franklin County Industrial Development Corporation: 2014 - \$500; 2015 – same
- d. Hazen’s Notch Association’s Campership Fund: This money would be applied towards the cost of sending three or more children from Montgomery to the Hazen’s Notch Association’s Summer Camp. 2014 - \$1,000; 2015 – same
- e. Green Up Day Vermont: 2014 - \$100; 2015 – same
- f. Missisquoi River Basin Association: 2014 - \$500; 2015 – same
- g. Green Mountain Transit Authority: 2014 - \$1,000; 2015 – same

Motion passed, as amended, by voice vote.

11) Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$539,546 for Contingent Selectboard? 2014 - \$380,961

Sharon Perry made a motion for \$539,546 and was seconded. Discussion followed. Tosca Smith asked for clarification on where the new employee wages and benefits are shown in the budget. Scott Perry addressed the question, indicating that the dollar amounts are split between the Highway Department and Buildings & Grounds.

Merle Van Gieson made a motion to amend to \$491,546 and was seconded. Motion was defeated by voice vote.

Motion for \$539,546 passed by voice vote.

12) To do any other business proper to be done at said meeting.

Brent Godin would like to see the Selectboard move to allow All Terrain Vehicles on Hazens Notch Road, Route 58. Discussion followed.

Merle Van Gieson stated that there is an email distribution list for Friends of the Hectorville Bridge for agendas and minutes.

Arnold Mercy requested an advisory vote to move Town Meeting to a Saturday. Motion failed by hand vote 17-22.

Brent Godin made a motion to adjourn at 1:45 pm and was seconded. Motion passed by voice vote.

A true record this 10th day of March, 2015.

Attest: _____

Attest: _____

Attest: _____



MONTGOMERY TOWN CLERKS OFFICE
RECEIVED FOR RECORD
 This 10 day of March, 2015
 at 4 o'clock and 0 minutes P. M.
 Attest: _____
 Montgomery Town Clerk Asst