

MINUTES OF BRIDPORT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MARCH 3, 2020
Masonic/Community Hall

At 10:30 AM in the forenoon, Town Moderator Tim Howlett called the business meeting to order. Joan Huestis gave the Invocation. All non-voters were asked to stand and be recognized. All Questions were directed to the Moderator. The Annual Town Meeting is governed by Robert's Rules of Order.

Article 1. To elect Town Officers by Australian ballot. The following were elected.

Town Moderator for a term of one year
Tim Howlett was elected.

Selectboard member for a term of three years
Jessica Stocker was elected.

Selectboard member for a term of two years
Robert Sunderland

Auditor for a term of two years
No one was elected.

Lister for a term of three years
Suzanne Buck was elected.

Lister for a term of one year
Eric Conroy was elected.

Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a term of one year
Jim Craig was elected.

First Constable for a term of one year
Jim Craig was elected.

Second Constable for a term of one year
Bruce Stocker was elected.

Water Commissioner for a term of one year
Ernest Audet was elected.

Town Agent for a term of one year
No one was elected.

Cemetery Commissioner for a term of 5 years
Francis Bronson was elected.

Article 2. Motion made by Diana Bain, seconded by Charlie Bain to approve the reports of the Town Officers. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 3. Motion made by Paul Miller, seconded by Diana Bain to appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 for the Bridport Fire Department. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 4. Motion made by Susan Stocker, seconded by Diana Bain to appropriate the sum of \$8,000.00 for Townline First Response. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 5. Motion made by Diana Bain, seconded by Charlie Bain to appropriate the sum of \$1,900.00 for Addison County Central Teens. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 6. Motion made by Diana Bain, seconded by Tom Noble to appropriate the sum of \$608.00 for Addison County Economic Development Corporation. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 7. Motion made by Diana Bain, seconded by Tom Noble to appropriate the sum of \$2,500.00 for Addison County Home Health and Hospice, Inc. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 8. Motion made by Charlie Bain, seconded by Diana Bain to appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for Addison County Humane Society. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 9. Motion made by Tom Noble, seconded by Diana Bain to appropriate the sum of \$1,600.00 for Addison County Parent/Child Center. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 10. Motion made by Andrew Manning, seconded by Charlie Bain to appropriate the sum of \$350.00 for Addison County Readers, Inc. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 11. Motion made by Charlie Bain, seconded by Diana Bain to appropriate the sum of \$400.00 for Addison County Restorative Justice Services. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 12. Motion made by Cynthia Myrick, seconded by Diana Bain to appropriate the sum of \$760.00 for Addison County Transit Resources. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 13. Motion made by Tom Noble, seconded by Diana Bain to appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 for Age Well. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 14. Motion made by Steve Huestis, seconded by Diana Bain to appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for American Red Cross NH VT. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 15. Motion made by Charlie Bain, seconded by Diana Bain to appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for Charter House Coalition. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 16. Motion made by Paul Miller, seconded by Steve Huestis to appropriate the sum of \$1,750.00 for Counseling Service of Addison County. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 17. Motion made by Diana Bain, seconded by Steve Huestis to appropriate the sum of \$700.00 for Elderly Services/Project Independence. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 18. Motion made by Tom Noble, seconded JoAnne Kenyon to appropriate the sum of \$600.00 for End of Life Services (formerly Hospice Volunteer Services). Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 19. Motion made by Cynthia Myrick, seconded by Diana Bain to appropriate the sum of \$1,250.00 for HOPE. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 20. Motion made by Diana Bain, seconded by Tom Noble to appropriate the sum of \$700.00 for John Graham Emergency Shelter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 21. Motion made by Paul Miller, seconded by Tom Noble to appropriate the sum of \$12,180.00 for Middlebury Regional EMS. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 22. Motion made by Diana Bain, seconded by Jessica Norris to appropriate the sum of \$850.00 for Open Door Clinic. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 23. Motion made by Diana Bain, seconded by John Rigg to appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 for Platt Memorial Library. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 24. Motion made by Diana Bain, seconded by John Rigg to appropriate the sum of \$320.00 for Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 25. Motion made by Diana Bain, seconded by John Rigg to appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for Vermont Adult Learning. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 26. Motion made by Darwin Pratt, seconded by John Rigg to appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 27. Motion made by John Rigg, seconded by Tom Noble to appropriate the sum of \$200.00 for Vermont CARES. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 28. Motion made by Diana Bain, seconded by John Rigg to appropriate the sum of \$190.00 for Vermont Center for Independent Living. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 29. Motion made by Diana Bain, seconded by John Rigg to appropriate the sum of \$250.00 for Vermont Family Network. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 30. Motion made by Paul Miller, seconded by Charlie Bain to appropriate the sum of \$ 1,250.00 for Womensafe. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 31. Motion made by Lynn Boie, seconded by Diana Bain to approve the creation of a Masonic/Community Hall Maintenance Reserve Fund for the purpose to maintenance, including for repairs and improvements, of the Hall, which Fund shall be under the control of the Selectboard with it having the right to spend the Fund for said purpose and which Fund Shall include from Hall rents received \$25.00 of very daily rental charge. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 32. Motion made by Diana Bain, seconded by Steve Huestis to authorize the Selectboard to spend up to \$45,000.00 to be financed over a three year period to purchase a one ton truck with equipment to replace the 2012 Dodge on ton truck in addition to the use of the old truck as a trade-in or its sale proceeds to purchases the replacement truck. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 33. Motion made by Diana Bain, seconded by Steve Huestis to authorize the Selectboard to spend from the accumulated General Fund Balance an estimated \$90,000.00 amount on the project based in using as estimated \$450,000.00 for the project's cost and with the Selectboard authorize to increase both of said amounts as it determines is needed to complete the project. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 34. Motion made by Cynthia Myrick, seconded by Diana Bain to authorize the Selectboard to construct new bridge and/or culvert improvements regarding replacement of a bridge on Middle Road and/or replacement of a culvert on each of the Mountain Road and/or Lake Street and/or replacement of double culverts on Rattlin Bridge Road as designated by the Selectboard and to borrow up to \$400,000.00 for use of the Town's share of the costs of such projects to be paid as determined by the Selectboard over a period of up to five years; with the Selectboard authorized to also borrow for the costs of such projects for which the Town is due to be reimbursed by funding form the State of Vermont or any other source which costs might exceed an estimated \$1,270,000.00. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 35. Motion made by Tom Noble, seconded by Jessica Norris to have the Towns property taxes paid to its Treasurer on or before November 10, 2020. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 36. Motion made by Diana Bain, seconded by Jessica Norris to approve the sums of \$1,068,650.00 and \$293,853.00 for the purposed expenses of the Department of Public Works and General Fund, respectively, for a total of \$1,362,503.00; with up to \$1,126,666.00 to be raised by taxes in addition to other non-tax receipts. Motion passed by voice vote.

Article 37. Other non-binding business, Steve Huestis suggested the Town change to a fiscal year, Paul Wagner & Bob Zelififf want more information from Bridport Central School in the Town Report.

Joan Huestis made the motion to Adjourn the meeting, Diana Bain seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 12:34 PM.

Tim Howlett, Moderator

Joan Huestis, Selectboard Chair

Julie Howlett, Town Clerk

