

MINUTES OF THE LOWELL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING 2022

The legal voters of the Town of Lowell, Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Lowell Graded School on **Saturday, May 21, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.** to act on the following articles of business:

- The Lowell Town Meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. Moderator Alden Warner asked voters to take a moment to honor our American Flag and led voters in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Alden read the announcements notifying the voters of the normal announcements of the Town Meeting.
- Alden reviewed the Roberts Rules of conduct to be adhered to throughout the meeting.

TOWN MEETING:

ARTICLE 1: *To ELECT TOWN MODERATOR for the ensuing year.*

- Alden Warner nominated; voice vote / carried.
- **ALDEN WARNER – ELECTED**

ARTICLE 2: *To HEAR and ACT upon reports of TOWN OFFICERS.*

- **TOWN REPORT ACCEPTED AS WRITTEN, WITH THE FOLLOWING CORRECTIONS BY VOICE VOTE.**
- Becky DiZazzo, Town Treasurer, announced some corrections that had been brought to her attention before town meeting. She had announced that the Fire department financials were missing so she included a separate page to be put in the book after it was published. There was an error in the Archie Powers fund and Becky explained that she had forgotten to add the interest and gave what the number should have been. Becky also explain that we never sent last year's Jr. Hoop money to the school but will be sending a check this year along with this year's request.
- Jennifer Blay spoke up to announce that the date of the F.O.L.K. Festival had been changed from September 17th to September 24, 2022.

ARTICLE 3: *To ELECT the following OFFICERS required by law:*

- a. **SELECT PERSON** 3-year term
- Gerry Nick- nominated.
- Gordon Spencer-nominated-declined nomination
- Jennifer Blay-nominated
- Stephen Clark-nominated
- Ben Willey- nominated
- **Nominees were asked to be heard from.** Nominees said a few words before the first round of paper ballot votes.
- **Results by paper ballot:** 1st round of votes for nominees by paper ballot were Gerry Nick-79, Jennifer Blay-74, Ben Willey-10, and Stephen Clark-7. Ben Willey and Stephen Clark dropped out after the 1st round of paper ballot votes.
- **Results by paper ballot:** 2nd round of votes for nominees by paper ballot were Gerry Nick-77 and Jennifer Blay-80
- **JENNIFER BLAY-ELECTED**

b. ROAD COMMISSIONER 3-year term

- Calvin Allen-nominated
- A.J. Sicotte-nominated
- Candidates were asked to speak on their behalf.
- Alden asked Darren to step in for him as temporary Moderator so he could speak on the current road commissioner's behalf.
- **Results by paper ballot:** Calvin Allen-111 A.J. Sicotte-54
- **CALVIN ALLEN-ELECTED**

- Motion was made to suspend the rules and jump to Article 12 due to the fact the Sheriff had to leave the meeting by a certain time.
- Motion was made to pass over Article 12, voice vote was undetermined, show of hands was asked for, results of show of hands was, Yes-34, No-46
- Motion was made to hear from the Sheriff-no objections
- Sheriff Harlow spoke and answered questions from the voters.
- Motion was made to call the question, and seconded, voice vote/carried
- Request for paper ballot/show of hands requested by moderator/request granted by show of more than 7 hands.
- Results listed in Article 12.

c. LISTER 3-year term

- Mark Higley- nominated.
- There were no other nominations, the Moderator using unanimous consent, instructed the Clerk to cast one paper ballot for Mark Higley.

- **MARK HIGLEY - ELECTED**

d. AUDITOR 3-year term

- Gordon Spencer- nominated.
- Dorothy Spoerl-nominated-declined nomination
- There were no other nominations, the moderator using unanimous consent, instructed the clerk to cast one paper ballot for Gordon Spencer.

- **GORDON SPENCER – ELECTED**

e. AUDITOR 2-year term

- Dorothy Spoerl- nominated
- There were no other nominations, the moderator using unanimous consent, instructed the clerk to cast one paper ballot for Dorothy Spoerl.

- **DOROTHY SPOERL-ELECTED**

f. 1st CONSTABLE 1-year term

- Ashley Callahan- nominated; voice vote / carried.

- **ASHLEY CALLAHAN – ELECTED**

g. 2nd CONSTABLE 1-year term

- Lyse McAllister-nominated; voice vote/carried.

- **LYSE MCALLISTER-ELECTED**

h. LIBRARY TRUSTEE

- Gina Arel-nominated; voice vote / carried
- **GINA AREL-ELECTED**

ARTICLE 4: *Shall the legal voters appropriate the sum of \$ 290,000.00 for TOWN EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES (Select Board's Account)?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- **Article passed by Voice Vote**

ARTICLE 5: *Shall the legal voters appropriate \$ 140,000.00 plus Vermont State Aid funding for WINTER ROADS?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- **ARTICLE PASSED By Voice Vote.**

ARTICLE 6: *Shall the legal voters appropriate \$ 140,000.00 plus Vermont State Aid funding for SUMMER ROADS?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- **ARTICLE PASSED By Voice Vote.**

ARTICLE 7: *Shall the legal voters appropriate \$ 33,000.00 for the FIRE DEPARTMENT?*

- *Article moved and seconded*
- **ARTICLE PASSED By Voice Vote**

ARTICLE 8: *Shall the legal voters appropriate \$ 6,000.00 for the COMMUNITY LIBRARY?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- **ARTICLE PASSED By Voice Vote.**

ARTICLE 9: *Shall the legal voters appropriate \$ 3,000.00 for the LITTLE LEAGUE & T-BALL teams?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- **ARTICLE PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

ARTICLE 10: *Shall the legal voters appropriate \$ 1,000.00 for the JR. HOOP BASKETBALL teams?*

- Article moved and seconded.
- **ARTICLE PASSED BY VOICE VOTE**

ARTICLE 11: *Shall the legal voters appropriate the sum of \$ 3,500.00 to the ORLEANS ESSEX VNA & HOSPICE, INC. for the services of Skilled Nursing, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Medical Social Work, Licensed Nurse's Aide, Homemaker, Personal Care Attendant, Hospice, and Maternal Child Health Programs, and other community health programs provided by the Agency?*

- Article moved and seconded
- **ARTICLE PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.**

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of **\$11,464.96** for contract services to the **ORLEANS COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT** for law enforcement services and to direct the Select persons to assess a tax over and above the budget to sufficient to meet the same? This will be used for approximately 192 hours of routine patrols, answering complaints, and investigating incidents. It will also cover administrative expenses, including salaries, vehicle, benefits, liability Insurance, maintenance, gasoline, supplies, telephone costs, and crime prevention programs.

- **Article 12 was taken up during article 3: See article 3**
- **Results by paper ballot: Yes-64 No-33**

ARTICLE 13: Shall the legal voters appropriate the following sums:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	
a)	\$250	\$250	to AMERICAN RED CROSS
b)	\$ 0	\$ 50	to FELINES & FRIENDS
c)	\$600	\$900	to GREEN MOUNTAIN FARM-to-SCHOOL, INC.
d)	\$ 50	\$50	to GREEN UP VERMONT
e)	\$1000	\$1000	to LAMOILLE COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH
f)	\$200	\$200	to MISSISQUOI RIVER BASIN ASSOC.
g)	\$300	\$300	to NORTHEAST KINGDOM COUNCIL ON AGING
h)	\$1,758	\$1,758	to NORTHEAST KINGDOM HUMAN SERVICE, INC.
i)	\$200	\$200	to NORTHEAST KINGDOM LEARNING SERVICES, INC.
j)	\$659	\$659	to NORTHEASTERN VT. DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
k)	\$ 0	\$350	to ORLEANS COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER
l)	\$ 0	\$500	to ORLEANS COUNTY CITIZEN ADVOCACY
m)	\$500	\$500	to ORLEANS COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION-(OCFA)
n)	\$550	\$700	to ORLEANS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
o)	\$500	\$500	to POPE MEMORIAL FRONTIER ANIMAL SHELTER
p)	\$700	\$700	to RURAL COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION
q)	\$825	\$825	to UMBRELLA
r)	\$100	\$100	to VACD – VERMONT RURAL FIRE PROTECTION
s)	\$200	\$200	to VT ASSOC for the BLIND and VISUALLY IMPAIRED
t)	\$90	\$90	to VT CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING
u)	\$0	\$250	to VERMONT FAMILY NETWORK
v)	\$0	\$100	to VERMONT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

\$8,482.00 \$10,182.00 Totals for above appropriations

PLEASE NOTE: Individual service reports printed throughout the town report.

- **Motion was made and seconded to amend or modify the numbers back to 2021 appropriation amounts. Discussion followed.**
- **Motion was made to call the question. No second**
- **Motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to modify the 2021 amounts that had 0 in 2021 to the following for 2022 : L to \$200, K to \$200, U to \$250, V to \$100, and B to \$50.**
- **Amendment carried by voice vote.**
- **The new total for appropriations is: \$9282.00**
- **ARTICLE PASSED AS AMENDED BY VOICE VOTE.**

ARTICLE 14: *To transact any other business that may legally come before the Town.*

- *Lyse McAllister made a suggestion of appropriating \$200 to the Lowell historical society next year.*
- *Lorin Warner made a request that the Town push the State to put a caution light at the 4-corner intersection in town.*
- *Lorin Warner also suggested that the towns people should get a petition going to maybe help the town get the caution light put in at the 4-corners.*

ARTICLE 15: *TO ADJOURN*

- The motion was made and seconded to adjourn the Town Meeting; voice vote / carried.
- **MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:40 P.M.**

Attest:

MODERATOR: Alden Warner _____

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE: Sadie Willey _____

PRESIDING OFFICER: Christy M. Pion _____

Received for recording in Town Proceeding Book

Attest: Christy M. Pion- Town Clerk