

TOWN OF STRATTON
MINUTES OF THE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF
MARCH 7, 2023

The legal voters of the Town of Stratton met as warned at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday, March 7, 2023. Boomer Walker opened the meeting at 10:00am.

The Clerk took the roll. 28 voters were present – 15 votes constitute a majority.

The Moderator read the following Article:

ARTICLE 1: *To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year.*

Kent Young nominated Boomer Walker. Chris Liller seconded. Candie Bernard moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Kent Young seconded. All concurred. Boomer Walker was elected Moderator for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 2: *To act on the Town Report.*

Kent Young moved to approve the Town Report. Al Dupell seconded. No discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote on the article. The ayes were unanimous and the Town Report was approved.

ARTICLE 3: *To elect Town officers as required by law:*

Town Clerk (one three-year term): Chris Liller nominated Kent Young. Al Dupell seconded. Candie Bernard moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Al Dupell seconded. All concurred. Kent Young was elected Town Clerk for a three-year term.

Treasurer (one three-year term): DR Holton nominated Alyson Peterson. Betsy Wadsworth seconded. Al Dupell moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Kent Young seconded. All concurred. Alyson Peterson was elected Treasurer for a three-year term.

Selectman (one three-year term): Kent Young nominated Greg Marcucci. Betsy Wadsworth seconded. Chris Liller moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Kent Young seconded. All concurred. Greg Marcucci was elected Selectman for a three-year term.

Selectman (one one-year term): Kent Young nominated Al Dupell. DR Holton seconded. Candie Bernard moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Chris Liller seconded. All concurred. Al Dupell was elected Selectman for a one-year term.

Selectman (one one-year term): Kent Young nominated Boomer Walker. Helen Eddy seconded. Al Dupell moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. DR Holton seconded. All concurred. Boomer Walker was elected Selectman for a one-year term.

Planning Commissioner (one three-year term): DR Holton nominated Kent Young. Al Dupell seconded. Candie Bernard moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Alyson Peterson seconded. All concurred. Kent Young was elected Planning Commissioner for a three-year term.

Planning Commissioner (one one-year term): Kent Young nominated George Rigoulot. Betsy Wadsworth seconded. Candie Bernard moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Kent Young seconded. All concurred. George Rigoulot was elected Planning Commissioner for a one-year term.

Planning Commissioner (one one-year term): Kent Young nominated Ray Hawksley. Al Dupell seconded. Candie Bernard moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Al Dupell seconded. All concurred. Ray Hawksley was elected Planning Commissioner for a one-year term.

Lister (one three-year term): Kent Young nominated Beth Liller. DR Holton seconded. Candie Bernard moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Kent Young seconded. All concurred. Beth Liller was elected Lister for a three-year term.

Cemetery Commissioner (one three-year term): Chris Liller nominated Kent Young. Al Dupell seconded. Candie Bernard moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Alyson Peterson seconded. All concurred. Kent Young was elected Cemetery Commissioner for a three-year term.

Delinquent Tax Collector (one one-year term): Kent Young nominated Candie Bernard. Betsy Wadsworth seconded. Al Dupell moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Kent Young seconded. All concurred. Candie Bernard was elected Delinquent Tax Collector for a one-year term.

Trustee of Public Funds (one one-year term): Kent Young nominated Alyson Peterson. Chris Liller seconded. Chris Liller moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Kent Young seconded. All concurred. Alyson Peterson was elected Trustee of Public Funds for a one-year term.

Constable (one one-year term): Kent Young nominated Paul Bernard. DR Holton seconded. Al Dupell moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Kent Young seconded. All concurred. Paul Bernard was elected Constable for a one-year term.

Town Agent (one one-year term): DR Holton nominated John Waite. Kent Young seconded. Candie Bernard moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Kent Young seconded. All concurred. John Waite was elected Town Agent for a one-year term.

ARTICLE 4: *To see if the Town will furnish bonds where bonds are required.*

Kent Young so moved. DR Holton seconded. No discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 4 was approved.

ARTICLE 5: *To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to borrow money on notes of the Town or otherwise in anticipation of taxes and/or current expenses.* Kent Young so moved. Chris Liller seconded. No discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 5 was approved.

ARTICLE 6: *To see if the Town will vote to approve the following appropriation requests:*

<i>Aids Project of Southern Vermont</i>	<i>400.00</i>
<i>American Red Cross</i>	<i>500.00</i>
<i>Big Heavy World</i>	<i>250.00</i>
<i>Community Food Pantry</i>	<i>500.00</i>
<i>Deerfield Valley Rescue</i>	<i>2,000.00</i>
<i>The Gathering</i>	<i>1,000.00</i>
<i>Grace Cottage Foundation</i>	<i>8,000.00</i>
<i>Green Up Vermont</i>	<i>50.00</i>
<i>Groundworks Collaborative</i>	<i>500.00</i>
<i>Health Care and Rehabilitation Services</i>	<i>500.00</i>
<i>Historical Society of Windham County</i>	<i>250.00</i>
<i>Londonderry Volunteer Rescue</i>	<i>3,000.00</i>
<i>Senior Solutions</i>	<i>725.00</i>
<i>SeVEDS.</i>	<i>648.00</i>
<i>Southern VT Therapeutic Riding Center</i>	<i>1000.00</i>
<i>Valley Cares, Inc.</i>	<i>335.00</i>
<i>VT Center for Independent Living</i>	<i>500.00</i>
<i>VT Family Network</i>	<i>250.00</i>
<i>VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force</i>	<i>100.00</i>
<i>Visiting Nurse Association</i>	<i>800.00</i>
<i>Wardsboro Public Library</i>	<i>6,600.00</i>
<i>Wardsboro Volunteer Fire Association</i>	<i>5,000.00</i>
<i>Wardsboro Volunteer Rescue</i>	<i>5,000.00</i>

<i>Windham County Humane Society</i>	<i>400.00</i>
<i>Windham County Safe Place</i>	<i>200.00</i>
<i>Winhall Library</i>	<i>2,625.00</i>
<i>Women's Freedom Center</i>	<i>750.00</i>
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>\$41,883.00</i>

Kent Young so moved. Helen Eddy seconded. No discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 6 unanimously passed.

ARTICLE 7: *To see if the Town will vote to approve the sum of \$63,500.00 for the Stratton Mountain Volunteer Fire Company operating budget.* Kent Young so moved. Al Dupell seconded. No discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 7 passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 8: *To see if the Town will vote to exempt the Stratton Mountain Volunteer Fire Company from municipal and education taxation on its lands and buildings located at 5 Brazers Way in Stratton for a period of five (5) years from July 1, 2023.* Al Dupell so moved. Chris Liller seconded. No Discussion: No discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 8 passed.

ARTICLE 9: *To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to eliminate the Outside Audit Reserve Fund* Kent Young so moved. Al Dupell seconded. Discussion: Devin Rondeau asked for an explanation of this article. Alyson Peterson explained that the reserve fund was nearly out of funds and that in this current year, this expense had been moved over as a line item in the Town's budget. With no further discussion, the Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 9 passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 10: *To see if the Town will vote to apply any surplus from the current fiscal year to reduce taxes in the next fiscal year.* Kent Young so moved. Al Dupell seconded. No discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 10 passed unanimously.

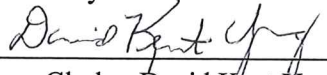
ARTICLE 11: *To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$988,794.00 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the General Fund for fiscal year 2024 (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024).* Al Dupell so moved. Kent Young seconded. No discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 11 passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 12: *To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,179,000.00 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the Highway Fund for fiscal year 2024 (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024).* Kent Young so moved. Al Dupell seconded. DR Holton asked why this budget had increased over last year's budget. Chris Liller explained that the cost of materials has increased considerably, which accounts for the majority of the increase. No further discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 12 unanimously passed.


ARTICLE 13: *To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.* The Moderator read a list of appointed positions the Town needs to fill this year, along with a brief description of the responsibilities of each position. Betsy Wadsworth also described what was happening with DV Fiber and the progress toward getting high-speed internet availability into the southern portions of Town. In conclusion, the Moderator said that anyone interested in volunteering for any of these various positions should please contact the Town Office.

Adjournment: At 10:30AM, the Moderator asked for a motion to adjourn. Al Dupell so moved. Greg Marcucci seconded and the Annual Stratton Town Meeting for 2022 adjourned.

Minutes by:



Town Clerk – David Kent Young

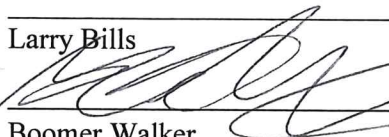
Approved:

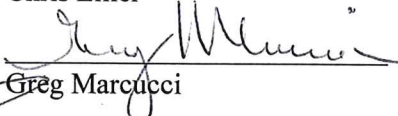

Moderator – Boomer Walker

Approved by the Selectmen:


Albert Dupell


Chris Liller


Boomer Walker


Greg Marcucci