

TOWN OF STRATTON
MINUTES OF THE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF
MARCH 1, 2022

The legal voters of the Town of Stratton met as warned at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. The previously elected Moderator, Diana Stugger, was not present due to unforeseen circumstances. The Town Clerk opened the meeting at 10:00am. He stated that Diana Stugger was unable to attend and that she had also recently moved from Town and would not be able to continue as Moderator, she wished she was able to attend to give her farewell to the Town, but unfortunately she could not attend. He said that Diana had served as Moderator since 1999 and that she had served on the Select Board from 1989 to 1997 and has been a member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment since 1989. She certainly will be missed. The Clerk also stated that Selectman, Kevin Robinson had very recently passed away. He had served as a Selectmen since 2006. A memorial insert had been placed in the Town Reports for all to see.

The Clerk took the roll. 20 voters were present – 11 votes constitute a majority. Guests present: Greg Sukiennik a Brattleboro Reformer reporter, Holly Wendell of Stratton Mountain School, and Cricket Mikheev of Maple Street School.

Selectman, Al Dupell, led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Town Clerk read the following Article:

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

Kent Young nominated Boomer Walker. Alyson Peterson seconded. Greg Marcucci 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.

At this time, Boomer Walker took the Oath of Office and proceeded with the meeting by providing some rule for the meeting and then read the articles as follows:

ARTICLE 2: To act on the Town Report.

Kent Young moved to approve the Town Report. Allison Peterson 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:

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

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

Selectman (one one-year term): Candie Bernard nominated Paul Bernard. Alyson Peterson seconded. Melissa Walker nominated Boomer Walker. Alyson Peterson seconded. No further nominations – the Moderator asked for a vote by paper ballot. Results: Boomer Walker 12 votes and Paul Bernard 8 votes. Boomer Walker was elected Selectman for a one-year term.

Planning Commissioner (one three-year term): Betsy Wadsworth nominated Chris Mann. Alyson Peterson seconded. Kent Young moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot.

Alyson Peterson seconded. All concurred. Chris Mann was elected Planning Commissioner for a three-year term.

Planning Commissioner (one one-year term): Greg Marcucci nominated George Rigoulot. DR Holton seconded. Al Dupell moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Betsy Wadsworth 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. Paul Bernard seconded. Kent Young moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Alyson Peterson seconded. All concurred. Ray Hawksley was elected Planning Commissioner for a one-year term.

Lister (one three-year term): Alyson Peterson 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 Lister for a three-year term.

Cemetery Commissioner (one three-year term): DR Holton nominated Larry Bills. Paul Bernard seconded. Al Dupell moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Betsy Wadsworth seconded. All concurred. Larry Bills was elected Cemetery Commissioner for a three-year term.

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

Trustee of Public Funds (one one-year term): DR Holton nominated Alyson Peterson. Candie Bernard seconded. Al Dupell 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): The moderator noted that he, the incumbent constable, is not eligible to run, as this office is incompatible with the office of Selectman. George Rigoulot nominated Paul Bernard. Greg Marcucci seconded. Kent Young moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. Alyson Peterson seconded. All concurred. Paul Bernard was elected Constable for a one-year term.

Town Agent (one one-year term): Kent Young nominated John Waite. Alyson Peterson seconded. Greg Marcucci moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. DR Holton 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.*

Betsy Wadsworth so moved. Kent Young 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.* Greg Marcucci so moved. Kent Young 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:*

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| <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>7,000.00</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> |

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| <i>Historical Society of Windham County</i> | 250.00 |
| <i>Joann Liller Scholarship Fund</i> | 500.00 |
| <i>Londonderry Volunteer Rescue</i> | 3,000.00 |
| <i>Senior Solutions</i> | 700.00 |
| <i>SeVEDS.</i> | 648.00 |
| <i>Southern VT Therapeutic Riding Center</i> | 1000.00 |
| <i>Valley Cares, Inc.</i> | 335.00 |
| <i>VT Center for Independent Living</i> | 500.00 |
| <i>VT Family Network</i> | 250.00 |
| <i>VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force</i> | 100.00 |
| <i>Visiting Nurse Association</i> | 800.00 |
| <i>Wardsboro Public Library</i> | 6,100.00 |
| <i>Wardsboro Volunteer Fire Association</i> | 5,000.00 |
| <i>Wardsboro Volunteer Rescue</i> | 5,000.00 |
| <i>Windham County Humane Society</i> | 400.00 |
| <i>Winhall Library</i> | 2,600.00 |
| <i>Women's Freedom Center</i> | 750.00 |
| TOTAL | \$40,633.00 |

Kent Young so moved. Alyson Peterson 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 \$65,550.00 for the Stratton Mountain Volunteer Fire Company operating budget.* Kent Young so moved. Greg Marcucci seconded. No discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 7 passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 8: *Shall the Town of Stratton authorize cannabis retailers and integrated licensees to conduct business in Town pursuant to 7 V.S.A. §863? "Cannabis Retailer" is defined as a person or business licensed by the State of Vermont's Cannabis Control Board to sell cannabis and cannabis products to adults 21 years of age and older for off-site consumption. An "Integrated Licensee" is defined as a person or business licensed by the State of Vermont's Cannabis Control Board to engage in the activities of a cultivator, wholesaler, product manufacturer, retailer, and testing laboratory in accordance with Vermont State law.* Kent Young so moved. Greg Marcucci seconded. Discussion: Kent Young stated that it is his understanding that this would allow business associated with production and sale of marijuana to be handled in the Town in a similar way that the sale of alcoholic beverages is handle. This would give the Town's authorization for the Select Board to consider and approve applications for these businesses individually, which are then ultimately considered for approval by the State, as are liquor licenses. Betsy Wadsworth asked if this had been discussed with Stratton Corp.. The Clerk said it was not to his knowledge. It was asked which other Towns in the area had approved it. The Clerk stated that he did not know. Some Towns had voted last year for approval to prepare for its enactment by the State this summer. Someone indicated that the Town of Jamaica had previously approved it. No further discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote. Two individuals were against approval. A majority of the voice vote was given in approval, and so, the Moderator declared that Article 8 had passed.

ARTICLE 9: *To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to maintain a reserve fund within the Highway Budget for Guard Rail installation, maintenance and replacement.* Kent Young so moved. Alyson Peterson seconded – no 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.* Al Dupell so moved. Betsy Wadsworth seconded. No discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 10 passed unanimously.

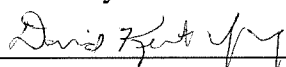
ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$954,671.00 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the General Fund for fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023). Kent Young so moved. Alyson Peterson seconded. No discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 11 passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,008,000.00 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the Highway Fund for fiscal year 2023 (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023). Kent Young so moved. Al Dupell seconded. The question was asked what is to be paved this year. A Selectman said that a portion of Stratton-Arlington Rd. is scheduled to be paved. With 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. No further business was conducted.

Adjournment: At 10:27AM, the Moderator asked for a motion to adjourn. Al Dupell so moved. Greg Marcucci seconded and the Annual Stratton Town Meeting for 2022 adjourned.

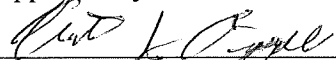
Minutes by:

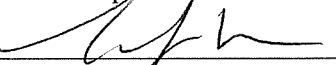

Town Clerk – David Kent Young

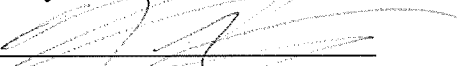
Approved:



Moderator – Boomer Walker

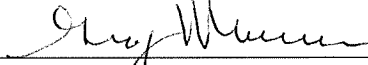
Approved by the Selectmen:


Albert Dupell


Larry Bills


Boomer Walker


Chris Liller


Greg Marcucci