

TOWN OF STRATTON  
MINUTES OF THE  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING OF  
MARCH 5, 2019

The legal voters of the Town of Stratton met as warned at the Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday, March 5, 2019. Moderator, Diana Stugger, called the meeting to order at 10:03am. Selectman, Al Dupell, led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Town Clerk took the roll. Initially, 69 voters were present; therefore, 35 votes constitute a majority. Guests present: Michael Culver, Jessica Marullo, Michael and Abigail Dell Aera, Holly Wendell, and Tiffany Tan. The Moderator read the names of Stratton Residents, whom we had learned had passed away in the last year – Joann Liller and Walter Stugger, then asked for the assembly to pause for a moment of silence in their honor. She then allowed Shane Boatright to address the assembly to thank firefighters for their response to a recent fire at his residence and for those individuals who serve as firefighters to stand up and be recognized. The assembly applauded for those members. The Moderator then also thanked various people for volunteering for Town events and addressed in the Selectmen's Report.

The Moderator read the following Articles and conducted the meeting as follows:

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

Kent Young nominated Diana Stugger. Siobhan Eddy Young seconded. Larry Bills moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. All concurred. Diana Stugger 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 see if the Town will reduce the number of Planning Commissioners elected by the Town of Stratton from the number of seven to the number of five. If so voted, a reduction to five members will be implemented by eliminating the Planning Commissioner positions scheduled to be elected in 2019 (at this meeting).* Kent Young so moved. John Wadsworth seconded. No discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote on the article. The ayes were unanimous and Article 3 passed.

*ARTICLE 4: To elect Town officers as required by law:*

*Selectman (one three-year term):* Kent Young nominated Chris Liller. Boomer Walker seconded. Larry Bills moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. All concurred. Chris Liller was elected Selectman for a three-year term.

*Selectman (one one-year term):* Kent Young nominated Al Dupell. Siobhan Eddy Young seconded. Larry Bills moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. All concurred. Al Dupell was elected Selectman for a one-year term.

*Selectman (one one-year term):* Kent Young nominated Kevin Robinson. DR Holton seconded. Larry Bills moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. All concurred. Kevin Robinson was elected Selectman for a one-year term.

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

*Auditor (one three-year term):* Kent Young nominated Helen Fuller Eddy. Siobhan Eddy Young seconded. Larry Bills moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. All concurred. Helen Fuller Eddy was elected Auditor for a three-year term.

**Auditor (two years of a three-year term):** Abbe Haber nominated Carolyn Beckedorff. Chris Liller seconded. Larry Bills moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. All concurred. Carolyn Beckedorff was elected Auditor for two years of a three-year term.

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

**Delinquent Tax Collector (one one-year term):** Kent Young nominated Candie Bernard. DR Holton seconded. Larry Bills moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. 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 Marcucci. Boomer Walker seconded. Larry Bills moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. All concurred. Alyson Marcucci was elected Trustee of Public Funds for a one-year term.

**Constable (one one-year term):** Larry Bills nominated Boomer Walker. Chris Liller seconded. Larry Bills moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. All concurred. Boomer Walker was elected Constable for a one-year term.

**Grand Juror (one one-year term):** Kent Young nominated John Waite. Chris Liller seconded. Larry Bills moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. All concurred. John Waite was elected Grand Juror for a one-year term.

**Town Agent (one one-year term):** Kent Young nominated John Waite. Chris Liller seconded. Larry Bills moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot. All concurred. John Waite was elected Town Agent for a one-year term.

**ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town will furnish bonds where bonds are required. Kent Young so moved. Boomer Walker seconded. No discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 5 was approved.

**ARTICLE 6:** 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. Boomer Walker seconded. No discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 6 was approved.

**ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to approve the following appropriation requests:

American Red Cross	500.00
Community Food Pantry	500.00
The Current	125.00
Deerfield Valley Rescue	1500.00
Grace Cottage Foundation	7,000.00
Green Up Vermont	50.00
Groundworks Collaborative	500.00
Health Care and Rehabilitation Services	500.00
Historical Society of Windham County	250.00
LaMarche Scholarship Fund	500.00
Londonderry Volunteer Rescue	2,500.00
Senior Solutions	500.00
SeVEDS.	648.00
Southern VT Therapeutic Riding Center	500.00
Stratton Mt. Rescue Ambulance Fund	6,000.00
Valley Cares, Inc.	335.00
VT Center for Independent Living	500.00
VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force	100.00
Visiting Nurse Association	800.00
Wardsboro Public Library	5,275.00

<i>Wardsboro Volunteer Fire Association</i>	5,000.00
<i>Wardsboro Volunteer Rescue</i>	3,000.00
<i>Windham County Humane Society</i>	400.00
<i>Winhall Library</i>	2,100.00
<i>Women's Freedom Center</i>	750.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$39,833.00</b>

Kent Young so moved. Boomer Walker seconded. Discussion: Laura Hawksley recommended increasing the appropriations for Londonderry Volunteer Rescue and Wardsboro Volunteer Rescue by \$2000.00 each. After the discussion, the Moderator asked to amend the article to include the increase to said appropriations. Laura Hawksley so moved. Larry Bills seconded – all concurred. The Moderator then asked for a motion to move the amended Article 7:

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

<i>American Red Cross</i>	500.00
<i>Community Food Pantry</i>	500.00
<i>The Current</i>	125.00
<i>Deerfield Valley Rescue</i>	1500.00
<i>Grace Cottage Foundation</i>	7,000.00
<i>Green Up Vermont</i>	50.00
<i>Groundworks Collaborative</i>	500.00
<i>Health Care and Rehabilitation Services</i>	500.00
<i>Historical Society of Windham County</i>	250.00
<i>LaMarche Scholarship Fund</i>	500.00
<i>Londonderry Volunteer Rescue</i>	4,500.00
<i>Senior Solutions</i>	500.00
<i>SeVEDS.</i>	648.00
<i>Southern VT Therapeutic Riding Center</i>	500.00
<i>Stratton Mt. Rescue Ambulance Fund</i>	6,000.00
<i>Valley Cares, Inc.</i>	335.00
<i>VT Center for Independent Living</i>	500.00
<i>VT Rural Fire Protection Task Force</i>	100.00
<i>Visiting Nurse Association</i>	800.00
<i>Wardsboro Public Library</i>	5,275.00
<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>	2,100.00
<i>Women's Freedom Center</i>	750.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$43,833.00</b>

Laura Hawksley so moved. Boomer Walker seconded. With no further questions, the Moderator asked for a voice vote. Article 7 was unanimously approved as amended.

**ARTICLE 8:** *To see if the Town will vote to approve the sum of \$52,150.00 for the Stratton Mountain Volunteer Fire Company operating budget..* Chris Liller so moved. Boomer Walker seconded. 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 maintain reserve funds for the following item: 1) Record Preservation, as required by State Statute.* Kent Young so moved. Larry Bills seconded. No Discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 9 was approved.

**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. Boomer Walker so moved. Laura Hawksley seconded. No Discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 10 passed.

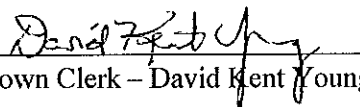
**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$848,219.65 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the General Fund for fiscal year 2020 (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020). Kent Young so moved. Boomer Walker seconded. Discussion: Alyson Marcucci stated that the article needed to be amended to reflect the change in appropriations. Kent Young moved to amend Article 11 by increasing the amount by \$4000.00. DR Holton seconded. No Discussion. The Moderator asked for a voice vote to amend the article as stated – all concurred. **ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$852,219.65 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the General Fund for fiscal year 2020 (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020). Kent Young so moved. DR Holton seconded. All concurred and Article 11 passed as amended.

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$907,000.00 to care for the expenses and liabilities of the Highway Fund for fiscal year 2020 (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020). Boomer Walker so moved. Kent Young seconded. Discussion: Chris Liller responded to a question about paving by stating that Pike Hollow Rd. and Pikes Falls Rd. were to be paved this year. Pikes Falls Rd. is eligible for State Grant money. With no further discussion, the Moderator asked for a voice vote and Article 12 passed.

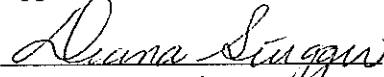
**ARTICLE 13:** To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting. Discussion: Laura Hawksley asked that the Town consider at next year's meeting an Appropriation in memory of Joann Liller – perhaps a scholarship fund through Leland and Gray High School. She will coordinate with the Liller family. Steve Goldfarb asked about budgeting for the Windham County Sheriff's Dept. Al Dupell responded that it had not been budgeted for this year and since the budget passed with no line item amount for them, their contract will not be renewed for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2019.

**Adjournment:** With no further business, the Moderator asked for a motion to Adjourn. Boomer Walker so moved. Kent Young seconded - all concurred and the meeting adjourned at 10:40AM.

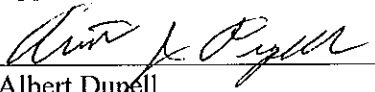
Minutes by:

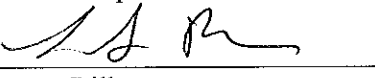
  
Town Clerk – David Kent Young

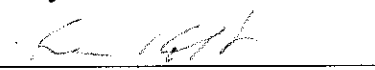
Approved:

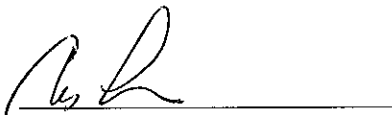
  
Moderator – Diana Stigger

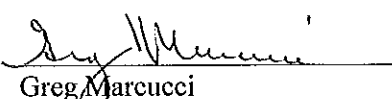
Approved by the Selectmen:

  
Albert Dupell

  
Larry Bills

  
Kevin Robinson

  
Chris Liller

  
Greg Marcucci