

**CONDENSATION OF MINUTES
TOWN OF WAITSFIELD ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MARCH 1, 2016**

Following are the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting for the Town of Waitsfield of March 1, 2016 pursuant 1 V.S.A. § 312(b)(1).

Moderator Brian Shupe called the Annual Meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. Mr. Shupe explained general information about the conduct of the meeting and use of Robert’s Rules of Parliamentary Procedure.

ARTICLE 1: To elect a Moderator for the Town. Paul Hartshorn nominated Brian Shupe. There being no other nominations, nominations were closed, and Brian Shupe was elected by unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 2: To hear and act upon the reports of the Town Officers. Brian Shupe recognized the dedication to Eleanor Haskins and Wayne Davies.

Reports of the Planning Commission, Development Review Board, Conservation Commission, Energy Committee, Town Meeting Research Group, Delinquent Tax Collector, Waitsfield-Fayston Volunteer Fire Department, Road Department, Dog Warden, Waitsfield Cemetery Commission, Joslin Memorial Library, and Selectboard were discussed and accepted.

ARTICLE 3: Shall the voters vote a budget to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town and authorize the Selectboard to set a tax rate sufficient to provide for the voted Town and School District budgets. Beth Phillips made a motion to adopt Article 3, seconded by Charlie Hosford. Motion made to table Article 3 until 6:30 p.m. Motion to move Article 3 to the table was approved by majority voice vote.

6:30 p.m. Logan Cooke made a motion to move Article 3 from the table, seconded by Beth Phillips.

Neil Johnson made a motion to reduce the Budget by \$41,986, equivalent to the amount appropriated to the Mad River Valley Planning District, seconded by Chessie Stevens. The motion was not approved by majority voice vote.

Neil Johnson made a motion to reduce the Budget by \$5,000 from the Budget, equivalent to the amount appropriated to the Valley Health Center, seconded by Vic Dumas. The motion was not approved by majority voice vote.

Logan Cooke made a motion to adopt Article 3, seconded by Beth Phillips. Article 3 was approved by majority voice vote.

ARTICLE 4: Shall the voters authorize the Town to collect taxes on real estate by four (4) equal payments made to the Treasurer as follows: one quarter (25%) of taxes to be paid without discount not later than Thursday, September 25, 2016, the second quarter (25%) of taxes to be paid without discount not later than Thursday, November 15, 2016, the third quarter (25%) of taxes to be paid without discount not later than Wednesday, February 15, 2017, with the remaining quarter (25%) to be paid without discount not later than Monday, May 15, 2017? Paul Hartshorn made a motion to adopt Article 4, seconded by Beth Phillips. Article 4 was approved by majority voice vote.

ARTICLE 5: Shall the voters authorize the Town to borrow money annually from reserve fund accounts in anticipation of Taxes and State Aid Money as an alternative to commercial tax anticipation borrowing, with such reserve funds to be repaid in full to the respective accounts with interest until voters authorize or direct otherwise? Logan Cooke made a motion to adopt Article 5, seconded by Beth Phillips. Elwin Neill Jr requested a floor vote by paper ballot. Yes votes: 114, No votes: 49, Spoiled: 5.

ARTICLE 6: Shall the voters authorize the Town to borrow an amount not to exceed \$120,000, to be paid over a period not more than five years and on such other terms as the Selectboard shall negotiate, for the purpose of paving Old County Road and Fire Station parking lot? Beth Phillips made a motion to adopt Article 6, seconded by Charlie Hosford. Article 6 was approved by majority voice vote.

ARTICLE 7: Shall the voters authorize the Selectboard to set the salaries of the Town Clerk and Town Treasurer pursuant to Title 24 V.S.A. Sections 932 and 933? Paul Hartshorn made a motion to adopt

Article 7, seconded by Beth Phillips. Article 7 was approved by majority voice vote.

Moderator announced that Adam Greshin, who represents the Washington-7 District (that includes Waitsfield) in the Vermont House of Representatives, was available to address the assembly. Mr. Greshin is not Waitsfield Town resident. There being no objection, the rules were suspended and Mr. Greshin addressed the assembly.

ARTICLE 8: Shall the voters renew the exemption of the Waitsfield Couple's Club Recreation Field from real estate taxes for a period of five (5) years pursuant to Title 32 V.S.A Section 3840? Logan Cooke made a motion to adopt Article 8, seconded by Beth Phillips. Article 8 was approved by majority voice vote.

ARTICLE 9: Shall the voters renew the exemption of the Mad River Valley Ambulance Service, Inc., facility located at 4177 Main Street from Real Estate taxes for a period of five (5) years pursuant to Title 32 V.S.A Section 3840? Paul Hartshorn made a motion to adopt Article 9, seconded by Beth Phillips. Article 9 was approved by majority voice vote.

ARTICLE 10: Shall the voters renew and extend for a maximum period of three years ending March 31, 2019, the Agricultural Tax Stabilization Agreement for farm lands, to the extent allowed by law? (This program was adopted by the voters of the Town at the Annual Town Meeting of 1986 and renewed and extended by articles passed at Town Meetings in 1989, 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001, 2004, 2007, 2010, and 2013.) Sal Spinosa made a motion to adopt Article 10, seconded by Beth Phillips. Article 10 was approved by majority voice vote.

ARTICLE 11: To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting. There was acknowledgment of Scott Kingsbury for his service on many boards.

Moderator closed the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Polls were closed.