

WARRANT FOR THE LONDONDERRY TOWN MEETING

The inhabitants of the Town of Londonderry, Vermont, who are legal voters of the Town Meeting, are hereby notified and warned to meet at their Town Hall, Tuesday, March 1st A.D. 2016 at 9:30 A.M. to act on the following Articles, namely:

BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED FROM THE FLOOR ON TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2016:

The body stood for the Pledge of Alligence.

Paul Gordon spoke on behalf of the Selectboard. He encouraged people to use the Town's website, email list and Front Porch Forum. He thanked all of the Town volunteers, board and committee members and employees. He encouraged people to get involved in the Town. Paul also thanked Kevin Beattie for his years of service to the Town. Stephanie Thompson, the new town administrator was introduced. Paul spoke about the Select boards efforts to put together a responsible budget. Matt Mosher spoke about the years that George Lang worked as the Chief of the South Londonderry Champion Fire #5, thanked him for his service and presented him with an etched glass statue as a token of appreciation from the department.

Jim Ameden, Select Board chair called the meeting to order at 9:39 and began reading the Warning.

Article 1: To choose a Moderator to preside at the Town Meeting.

Melissa Brown nominated Wendell Coleman. Daniel Cobb moved nominations be closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Wendell Coleman. Roger Sheehan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a voice vote.

The Moderator continued to read the Warning.

Berthe Cowles moved **Article 2:** To act on the report of the Auditors. Cindy Gubb seconded the motion.

The Moderator asked the body if there was any objection to allowing Londonderry's Representative, Oliver Olsen to speak. Hearing none, the meeting was suspended and Oliver Olsen addressed the assembly. Representative Olsen read and presented two Concurrent House Resolutions to Wendell Coleman and George Lang acknowledging them and thanking them for their many years of service to the Town of Londonderry. Rep. Olsen then spoke about the current challenges in the State of Vermont and his goals for the current session. His first concern was the changing demographics within the State and the effects that has on our tax base. He recommended a multifaceted approach to addressing these challenges, the two most important being education and economic development. He touched on Act 46 as a means of helping to control education spending while dealing with declining student enrollment. Rep. Olsen talked about his efforts to establish an economic development zone in Southern Vermont and addressed some concerns with the IT problems associated with Vermont Health Connect. Oliver spoke about his effort to protect school choice within the changing education legislation. Rep. Olsen encouraged everyone to fill out the Doyle survey he brought with him. Olsen thanked all of the community volunteers and the election officials for all of their hard work. The floor was open for questions. It was mentioned that enrollment at Flood Brook is not declining, which is not the norm in the State of Vermont and how it reflects the quality of education offered in our school

district. There was a question about the current year's school taxes and that they are predicted to go down this year.

The meeting resumed.

There was no further discussion on article 2. The motion passed with a voice vote.

Article 3: To elect Town Officials required by law to be elected at this meeting.

Joel Kulberg nominated Paul Gordon for the 3 year Select Board term. Marge Fish made a motion that nominations be closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Paul Gordon. Dick Dale seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

The next election was for a 2 year term on the Select Board. Sheila Seldon nominated Cathy Aragi. Rob Haussline nominated Will Reed. John Barry nominated Susie Wyman. All three candidates spoke briefly. During the counting of ballots Chris Blackey announced information about lunch and thanked the Town for the use of the Town Hall. Richard Dale spoke about the Mighty Londonderry group and encouraged everyone to fill out the survey they were passing out. They are trying to gather information to help share resources in the event of an emergency. Maryann Morris spoke on behalf of the Collaborative about surveys she was handing out for their community substance use and wellness programs. The vote count from the first round of paper ballots was Will Reed 65, Cathy Aragi 57, Susie Wyman 58. During the second counting of ballots Rosalind Klezos spoke about Green Up day sign ups and the local Act 46 committee. Wendell Coleman spoke about the local impact of Act 46 and the further district consolidation that will be required. He touched on the safe guard to school choice that is built into Act 46 and the change to the manner in which voting will occur within the new school district structure. The vote count from the second round of paper ballots was Will Reed 94, Cathy Aragi, 38, Susie Wyman 55.

Esther Fishman nominated Sandra Clark for a 3 year term as Lister. Marge Fish made a motion that nominations be closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Sandra Clark. Richard Dale seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Matt Mosher nominated Roger Sheehan for a 1 year term as First Constable. Marge Fish made a motion that nominations be closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Roger Sheehan. Richard Dale seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Matt Mosher nominated Nick Doane for a 1 year term as Second Constable. Emily Underwood made a motion that nominations be closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Nick Doane. Claire Trask seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Tina Labeau nominated Joan Dayton for a 1 year term as Delinquent Tax Collector. Emily Underwood made a motion that nominations be closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Joan Dayton. Joel Kulberg seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Esther Fishman nominated Peter Pagnucco for a 1 year term as Town Grand Juror. Daniel Cobb made a motion that nominations be closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Peter Pagnucco. Marge Fish seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

The Moderator turned the meeting over to the Select Board Chair for the election of Town Agent since he is the incumbent for that position.

Wilma Tremarco nominated Doug Friant for a 1 year term as Town Agent. Daniel Cobb made a motion that nominations be closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Doug Friant. Marge Fish seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

The Select Board Chair turned the meeting back over to the Moderator.

Daniel Cobb nominated Maureen Cronin for a 5 year term as Cemetery Commissioner. Emily Underwood made a motion that nominations be closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Maureen Cronin. Matt Mosher seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

As a result of a discrepancy in the listed order of Elected Officers in the Town Report verses the Meeting Warning it was agreed that Article 6 would be acted on before Article 4.

Article 6: To elect one (1) Trustee of Public Funds for a term of three (3) years.

Esther Fishman nominated Michael Goodbody. Daniel Cobb made a motion that nominations be closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Michael Goodbody. Roger Sheehan seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Article 4: To elect one (1) Parks Board members for a five (5) year term.

Blake Wyman nominated Susie Wyman, Melissa Brown nominated Trevor Bickford and Wendy Arace nominated Rachel Bacon Febbie. During the counting of ballots Dr. Roger Fox spoke on behalf of Mountain Valley Medical Center in regard to the recent incorporation of the MVMC into the Springfield Medical Care System. The result of the first round of paper ballot was Rachel Bacon Febbie 36, Susie Wyman 61 and Trevor Bickford 47. The result of the second round of paper ballot votes was Rachel Bacon Febbie 22, Trevor Bickford 41 and Susie Wyman 71.

Article 5: To elect one (2) members for the RED Board for a term of three (3) years.

Esther Fishman nominated Rosalind Klezos for a 3 year term on the Mountain Town Regional Education District Board. Daniel Cobb made a motion that nominations be closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Rosalind Klezos. Roger Sheehan seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

The Moderator turned the meeting over to the Select Board Chair because he was in incumbent but stated he was not running for the RED board.

Rosalind Klezos nominated Jeanne Zammataro for a 3 year term on the Mountain Town Regional Education District Board. Richard Dale made a motion that nominations be closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Jeanne Zammataro. Marge Fish seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

The Select Board Chair turned the meeting back over to the Moderator.

Article 7: To elect one (1) Memorial Park Trustee for a term of five (5) years.

The Moderator announced that there were also two resignations from the Memorial Parks Board. Julie Bacon Snide resigned leaving three remaining years on a five year term and Hilary Dawley resigned leaving one remaining year on a five year term.

The first vote was to fill the one remaining year of Hilary Dawley's five year term.

Julie Bacon Snide nominated Nadine VanHouten. Susie Wyman nominated Trevor Bickford and then withdrew the nomination. Roger Sheehan made a motion that nominations be closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Nadine VanHouten. Marge Fish seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Pete Cobb nominated Taylor Barton for the five year term. Daniel Cobb made a motion that nominations be closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Taylor Barton. Roger Sheehan seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Susie Wyman nominated Trevor Bickford for the remaining three years of a five year term left vacant after Julie Bacon Snide's resignation. Daniel Cobb made a motion that nominations be closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Trevor Bickford. Roger Sheehan seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Jeanne Zammataro moved **Article 8:** Shall the Town raise the sum of \$60,000 (Sixty Thousand), to be placed into a Town Infrastructure Improvement Fund. Richard Dale seconded the motion. Paul Gordon spoke on behalf of the Select Board to let people know that the \$60,000 was to be used for improving the drainage around the foundation of the Town Office building in preparation for future improvements to the basement level of that building. He also said he hoped the fund could be used for ongoing needed improvements to Town infrastructure. He mentioned the recent grant approval for a generator that would allow the Town Office to be used as an Emergency Management Facility. Larry Gubb spoke for the Planning Commission to answer questions about the article. It was asked why the article was to create a fund rather than to pay for a specific project. Larry spoke about the ongoing improvements that have happened at the Twitchell Building since 2010 and the needs assessment that was conducted by the Planning Commission. He talked about the engineering study and conditions assessment done on the building in 2012 to prepare for the renovation of the bottom floor into usable office space and to bring the building into ADA compliance. He said they have been looking at the project in phases and that the money this year was going toward the first step of improving drainage and controlling moisture in the basement. There was general discussion about why a fund was being established and what the long term goals were for renovating the Twitchell Building. There was a concern about the name of the fund and having the money used for infrastructure in general. John Barry made a motion to change the article to: Shall the Town raise the sum of \$60,000 (Sixty Thousand), to be placed into a Town Office Improvement Fund for the Twitchell Building. Roger Sheehan seconded the motion. The motion to amend the article passed with a voice vote. Dick Dale made a motion to call the question. Jeanne Zammataro seconded the motion. The motion to call the question passed with a voice vote. The article as amended passed with a voice vote.

Jeanne Zammataro moved **Article 9:** Shall the Town of Londonderry vote a sum of \$86,000.00 to fund contracting with the VT State Police for policing the Town of Londonderry. Ira Zuckerman seconded the motion. Paul Gordon spoke on behalf of the Selectboard, although the board took no official stance on the article and Peter Pagnucco spoke on behalf of the Policing Committee. There was a general discussion about the need for a police presence in the Town of Londonderry and how the Vermont State Police would spend their time during their patrols. There were concerns about the cost and the effectiveness of having the police in town in general. John Barry made a motion to call the question. Richard Korzun seconded the motion. The motion to call the question passed with a voice vote. Pete Cobb requested a paper ballot vote. The Moderator asked all those in favor of a paper ballot vote to stand. A large majority of voters in attendance stood up.

Alice Nitka, one of our Windsor County Senators, spoke during the counting of the ballots. She spoke about the challenges of balancing the budget, especially given the high cost of Health Care. She touched on a bill that addresses the weight that Town and Regional Plans are given before the Public Service Board in regard to Renewable Energy Projects. She brought up a

Landlord/Tenant Bill that addresses the rights of illegitimate tenants and the eviction process. Sen. Nitka discussed the Opiate Bill which limits how many opiate pills can be prescribed to a patient. She touched on an issue that the Tax Department is having with illegal Tax returns and the delay in sending out State tax refunds. Lastly Sen. Nitka spoke about the difference between how the State handles medical and recreational marijuana.

The results of the paper ballot vote for article 9 was 95 Yes, 67 No. The article passed.

The meeting went in recess at 1:15pm for lunch break.

The meeting reconvened at 2:00pm.

Dick Dale moved **Article 10**: Shall the Town approve to raise the sum of \$100,000 (One Hundred Thousand), to be put into the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund? Jim Twitchell seconded the motion. Paul Gordon spoke about the need to continue the Fund on behalf of the Select board. The article passed with a voice vote.

John Barry moved **Article 11**: Shall the Town vote to approve the purchase of a parcel of land located at approximately 6600-6950 Route 100, at a cost of \$150,000 (One Hundred Fifty Thousand); and to finance the land purchase as follows and conditioned upon the following funds all being available for the purchase: 1) to raise appropriate the sum of \$30,000 (Thirty Thousand) towards the purchase through current taxes, and 2) authorize the Select Board to finance the sum of \$120,000 (One Hundred Twenty Thousand) over a period not to exceed five (5) years. Cindy Gubb seconded the motion. Paul Gordon, again, spoke for the Select Board about the possible uses for the piece of land in question. There was discussion about the value of the property verses the proposed purchase piece and the costs associated with the potential uses of the land. Jim Ameden stated that the seller of the land has stated that he won't accept any offer less than \$150,000. Doug Friant made a motion to amend the article to: Shall the Town vote to approve the purchase of a parcel of land located at approximately 6600-6950 Route 100, at a cost of \$80,000 (Eighty Thousand); and to finance the land purchase as follows and conditioned upon the following funds all being available for the purchase: 1) to raise appropriate the sum of \$20,000 (Twenty Thousand) towards the purchase through current taxes, and 2) authorize the Select Board to finance the sum of \$60,000 (Sixty Thousand) over a period not to exceed five (5) years. Bob Cowles seconded the motion. There was continued discussion about the piece of land, including problems with possible contamination, Act 250 permitting and the costs and challenges with the proposed uses of the land. There was a general feeling that there was not enough information about the land and its resources being presented. Melissa Brown made a motion to call the question on the amendment. Roger Sheehan seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and was too close to call. The Moderator asked for a show of hands. After counting the show of hands the motion was voted down and debate on the amendment continued. John Barry made a motion to table Article 11 indefinitely. George Adzima seconded the motion to table indefinitely. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Bruce Frauman moved **Article 12:** To see how much the Town will vote for a General Fund in the amount of \$1,621,664.62. Dick Dale seconded the motion. The article passed with a voice vote.

Steve Prouty asked the Moderator about untabling Article 11. Steve Prouty made a motion to take article 11 off the table. Steve Prouty stated that he wanted to address the fact that the assembly seemed to be asking the Select board to gather more information about the parcel of land and that there would be costs associated with doing so. His intent in asking that the article be untabled was to address that concern. Claire Trask seconded the motion. There was a discussion about whether or not to take the article off the table. The vote to untable Article 11 passed by a voice vote. John Barry made a motion to amend Article 11 to state: Shall the Selectboard spend up to \$60,000.00 (Sixty Thousand) for engineering and any other such study that will be required to assess the feasibility of the purchase of the parcel of land at 6600-6950 Route 100. Claire Trask seconded the motion. Doug Friant made a motion to amend the amendment to Article 11 to state: Shall the Selectboard spend up to \$10,000.00 (Ten thousand) for engineering and any other such study that will be required to assess the feasibility of the purchase of the parcel of land at 6600-6950 Route 100. John Barry seconded the motion. Melissa Brown made a motion to call the question. Cindy Gubb seconded the motion. The vote to call the question passed with a voice vote. The vote to amend the amendment passed with a voice vote. The vote to amend Article 11 to state: Shall the Selectboard spend up to \$10,000.00 (Ten Thousand) for engineering and any other such study that will be required to assess the feasibility of the purchase of the parcel of land at 6600-6950 Route 100 passed with a voice vote.

Jim Twitchell moved **Article 13:** Shall the Town vote for its taxes to be paid to the Town Treasurer as provided by law, due date to be on or before October 1st, 2016. Roger Sheehan seconded the motion. The article passed with a voice vote.

Matt Mosher moved **Article 14:** Shall the Town vote to raise a sum of \$20,000.00 on the Grand List of 2016 for Champion Fire Company #5, Inc. Daniel Cobb seconded the motion. Jim Ameden spoke for Phoenix Fire Company in regard to the fact that they were not making an appropriation request this year. Matt Mosher spoke for Champion Fire Company about their budget for the year. The article passed with a voice vote.

Kevin Beattie moved **Article 15:** Shall the Town vote to raise the sum of \$1,000.00 for the Londonderry Conservation Fund. Bob Fish seconded the motion. There was a brief discussion about the purpose of the fund. The article passed with a voice vote.

Jim Twitchell moved **Article 16:** Shall the Town vote to raise a sum of \$6,000 on the Grand List of 2016 for the Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad. Matt Mosher seconded the motion. The article passed with a voice vote.

Berthe Cowles moved **Article 17**: Shall the Town vote to raise a sum of \$26,000 for the Mountain Valley Medical Center. Cindy Gubb seconded the motion. The article passed with a voice vote.

Berthe Cowles moved **Article 18**: Shall the Town vote to raise the sum of \$10,000.00 to the South Londonderry Library Association. Bob Wells seconded the motion. The article passed with a voice vote.

Martha Dale moved **Article 19**: Shall the Town vote to raise the sum of \$2,000 for the West River Montessori School to be used towards their new toddler program. Cindy Gubb seconded the motion. The article passed with a voice vote.

Bob Forbes moved **Article 20**: Shall the Town vote to raise the sum of \$32,700 for the following organizations.

American Red Cross	\$200.00
Flood Brook Athletic Association	\$2,500.00
Friends of the West River Trail	\$1,000.00
Grace Cottage Foundation	\$500.00
Greater Northshire Access TV	\$2,000.00
Green Mountain RSVP	\$415.00
Green Up Vermont	\$100.00
Health Care & Rehab. Services	\$1,513.00
Londonderry 4th of July	\$1,000.00
Senior Solutions	\$850.00
SEVCA	\$1,700.00
Southeast VT Watershed Alliance	\$415.00
The Collaborative	\$750.00
The Current	\$1,000.00
Valley Cares	\$2,742.00
Visiting Nurse Assn. of VT & NH	\$6,720.00
Vermont Rural Fire Protection	\$100.00
West River Sports Association	\$2,330.00
Windham County Historical Society	\$250.00
Windham County Humane Society	\$500.00
Windham County Youth Services	\$315.00
Women's Freedom Center	\$800.00
Neighborhood Connections	\$5,000.00

Bruce Frauman seconded the motion. Cheryl Nutter made a motion to amend the appropriation for The Collaborative to \$1250.00. Bob Fish seconded the motion. There was a brief discussion about not wanting to change the amounts that organizations have requested. The amendment was defeated by a voice vote. The original article passed by a voice vote.

Berthe Cowles moved **Article 21:** Shall the Town vote to raise the sum of \$4,800 for The Partnership. Bob fish seconded the motion. Cindy Gubb spoke on behalf of the Partnership about what this new organization hopes to accomplish in terms of regional promotion and economic development. There was a concern that the funding for Article 21 and 22 are for similar purposes. The Moderator asked if there was any objection to letting the representative from SeVEDS speak. Hearing none the representative from SeVEDS spoke about its programs. The article passed by a voice vote.

Bob cowles moved **Article 22:** Shall the Town vote to raise the sum of \$5,300 for Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Strategies (SeVEDS). Esther Fishman seconded the motion. The representative from SeVEDS spoke further about the services that they provide in Windham county. There was discussion about how SeVEDS has under served the Londonderry area. The article was defeated by a voice vote.

Article 23: To transact any other business that may legally come before the Meeting.

There was discussion about the following subjects:

The status of the transition fund, changing the start time/day of town meeting, changing the floor vote status of town meeting, the order of the articles on the Town Meeting warning, the new Lowell Lake development plan.

Helen Hammond moved that the meeting be adjourned. Bob Cowles seconded the motion. The motion passed with a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 4:10pm.

Submitted for Recording by the Town Clerk April 4, 2016

Kelly Pajala

Approved

Jim Ameden Selectboard Chair

Wendell Coleman Moderator