

## **DRAFT MINUTES FOR THE LONDONDERRY TOWN MEETING**

The inhabitants of the Town of Londonderry, Vermont, who are legal voters of the Town Meeting met at Pingree Park, 36 Pingree Park Lane, Londonderry, on Saturday May 1st A.D. 2021 at 9:30 A.M. to act on the following Articles, namely:

### **BUSINESS TRANSACTED FROM THE FLOOR ON SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2021:**

The meeting was called to order at 9:40am by George Mora.

The Assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Article 1, to choose a Moderator to preside at Town Meeting. Pete Cobb nominated Doug Friant. Dick Dale seconded the nomination. Danny 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. Doug Friant went over Covid 19 health and safety guidelines and Robert's Rules of Order.

Article 2, to act on the report of the Town Officers was moved by Dick Dale. Marge Fish seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Article 3, to elect all Town Officials required by law was moved by Dick Dale. Marge Fish seconded the motion.

Faith Alberti nominated Melissa Brown for Select Board for a term of two years. Danny Cobb made a motion that nominations be closed, and the Clerk cast one ballot for Melissa Brown. Marge Fish seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Esther Fishman nominated Thomas Cavanagh for Select Board for a term of three years. Danny Cobb made a motion that nominations be closed, and the Clerk cast one ballot for Thomas Cavanagh. Matt Mosher seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Sandra Clark nominated Debbie O'Leary for Lister for a term of three years. Danny Cobb made a motion that nominations be closed, and the Clerk cast one ballot for Debbie O'Leary. Marge Fish seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Sharon Crossman nominated Kevin Beattie for First Constable for a term of one year. Danny Cobb made a motion that nominations be closed, and the Clerk cast one ballot for Kevin Beattie. Dick Dale seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Steve Twitchell nominated himself for Second Constable for a term of one year. Danny Cobb made a motion that nominations be closed, and the Clerk cast one ballot for Steve Twitchell. Dick Dale seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Danny Cobb nominated Maureen Cronin for Cemetery Commissioner for a term of five years. Jeff Duda made a motion that nominations be closed, and the Clerk cast one ballot for Maureen Cronin. Dick Dale seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Esther Fishman nominated Pauline Davison for Trustee of Public Funds for a term of three years. Danny Cobb made a motion that nominations be closed, and the Clerk cast one

ballot for Pauline Davison. Dick Dale seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Article 4, to see how much the Town will vote for a General Fund was moved by Dick Dale in the amount of \$2,079,260. Marge Fish seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Article 5, 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, 2021 was moved by Dick Dale. Marge Fish seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Article 6, shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,500 for the following organizations: Londonderry Conservation Fund \$500.00, Champion Fire Company #5 \$20,000.00, Phoenix Fire Company #6 \$20,000.00, Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad \$10,000.00, South Londonderry Library Association \$10,000.00 was moved by Dick Dale. Marge Fish seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Article 7, shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,352 for the following organizations: Flood Brook Athletic Association \$1,500.00, Friends of The West River Trail \$500.00, Grace Cottage Foundation \$ 750.00, Greater Northshire Access \$1,000.00, Green Mountain RSVP \$415.00, Green Up Vermont \$100.00, Health Care & Rehabilitation Services \$1,513.00, Londonderry Historical Society \$500.00, Mountain Valley Health Council \$5,000.00, Neighborhood Connections \$6,000.00, Senior Solutions \$850.00, SVEDS \$5,307.00, SEVCA \$1,700.00, Southeast Vermont Watershed Alliance \$260.00, The Collaborative \$1,000.00, Valley Cares \$2,742.00, Visiting Nurse Assoc. of VT & NH \$7,000.00, Vermont Rural Fire Protection \$100.00, West River Montessori School \$3,000.00, Windham County Youth Services \$315.00, Women's Freedom Center \$800.00 was moved by Dick Dale. Marge Fish seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Article 8, shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to support the My Community Nurse Program was moved by Dick Dale. Pete Cobb seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Without objection, State Representative Kelly Pajala spoke to the Assembly about the Federal American Rescue Plan money that will be coming to the Town to help with municipal and community needs related to economic recovery efforts in response to the Covid 19 pandemic.

Article 9, shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$45,000 to fund contracting with the Windham County Sheriff's Office for policing the town of Londonderry was moved by Dick Dale. Darcy Duval seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Article 10, shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum \$50,000 for an engineering study to evaluate the condition of the Williams Dam and to determine the

comparative costs of its repair or replacement was moved by Dick Dale. Sharon Crossman seconded the motion. There was discussion about why there was a need for a study and new State requirements of dam ownership. Vincent Annunziata made a motion to add the word "remove" so the article would become "shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum \$50,000 for an engineering study to evaluate the condition of the Williams Dam and to determine the comparative costs of its repair, replacement or removal". Dick Dale accepted the amendment. Steve Twitchell seconded the motion to amend. The vote to amend passed by a voice vote. The vote on the article as amended passed by a voice vote.

Article 11, shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to be deposited into the Emerald Ash Borer Infestation Reserve Fund was moved by Dick Dale. Pete Cobb seconded the motion. There was discussion about why the appropriation amount was so low and what the likely cost would be to remove ash trees in the future. It was noted that the amount of money in the fund would not come close to covering the full cost of ash tree removal. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Article 12, shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 to be deposited into the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund was moved by Dick Dale. Elsie Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Article 13, shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 to be deposited into the Town Buildings Reserve Fund was moved by Dick Dale. Larry Gubb seconded a motion. It was noted that the amount going into this fund was cut for this year in response to concerns about budget increases do to the COVID 19 pandemic. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Article 14, shall the Town establish, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 2804(a), a reserve fund to be named "The Community Economic Improvement Reserve Fund", the purpose of which is to support municipal efforts to plan, promote and implement economic recovery, revitalization, and development efforts in Londonderry? Such fund may receive income either through an appropriation at a future annual or special Town Meeting, through grants, gifts, or donations from any source and through accrued interest. Dick Dale made a motion to move the article. Elsie Smith seconded the motion. There was discussion about Federal American Rescue Plan Money that will need to be completely segregated from all General Fund Money and this fund can be used for that purpose. As a result of that discussion, George Mora made a motion to remove the words "either through an appropriation at a future annual or special Town Meeting," from the article. Dick Dale seconded the amendment. The vote to amend the article passed by voice vote. The article as amended passed by a voice vote.

Article 15, shall the Town establish, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 2804(a), a reserve fund to be named "The Highway Improvement Reserve Fund", the purpose of which is to support the ongoing repair, upkeep, maintenance and improvements of Town highways? Such fund may receive income either through an appropriation at a future annual or special Town Meeting, through grants, gifts, or donations from any source and through accrued interest was moved by Dick Dale. Chris Blackey seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Article 16, to transact any other business that may legally come before the Meeting was moved by Dick Dale. Matt Mosher seconded the motion. Steve Swinburn spoke about the problem of speeding on Main Street and Thompsonburg Road in the south village. Darcy Duval spoke about commercial truck traffic using Main Street and Thompsonburg Road as a through road. Sharon Crossman mentioned the potential for radar speed signs to slow traffic down. Barbara Wells spoke about wanting the Windham County Sheriff to spend some time on Thompsonburg Road to slow down the traffic. Shawna Proper spoke about speeding on State Route 100 in the south village and the "slow down" campaign that she spearheaded in recent months. Vincent Annunziata suggested that the pending contract with the Windham County Sheriff has potential to help with traffic violations and we should see how that goes before taking other steps to address speeding. Dick Dale made a motion to adjourn. Chris Blackey seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2021

**Select board of the Town of Londonderry**

\_\_\_\_\_ Georgianne Mora, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Thomas Cavanagh, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_ Taylor Prouty

\_\_\_\_\_ Vincent Annunziata

\_\_\_\_\_ James Fleming

Received for the record this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2021

\_\_\_\_\_ Kelly M. Pajala, Town Clerk