

## Minutes for the Town Meeting 2009

The legal voters of The Town of Peacham met at the Peacham Congregational Church in Peacham, on Tuesday, March 3, 2009 at 10:00 AM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the beginning of the meeting.

John Marshall, speaking on behalf of the Peacham Congregational Church, welcomed all visitors to the church at the beginning of Town Meeting.

Article 1 To elect a moderator to conduct the meeting and to continue to serve as Moderator for a term of one year or until his or her successor is elected.

John Coffin nominated Rob Ide for Moderator. There being no other nominations, Ide was elected by a voice vote.

Article 2 To receive the report of the Town Auditors.

Julie Kempton referred the voters to The Auditor's report on page13 of The Annual Report.

Article 3 To elect a Town Clerk for a term of one year.

Jerry Senturia nominated Bruce Lafferty for Town Clerk. There being no other nominations, Lafferty was elected by a voice vote.

Article 4 To elect a Town Treasurer and Tax Collector for a term of one year.

Jerry Senturia nominated Bruce Lafferty for Town Treasurer and Tax Collector. There being no other nominations. Lafferty was elected by a voice vote.

Article 5 To elect a Selectboard member for a term of three years.

John Coffin nominated Gary Swenson. Ken Goslant nominated Andy Cochran. Moderator called for a paper ballot. There were 115 votes cast, 58 votes were needed for election. Cochran received 78 votes, Swenson received 36 votes, and there was 1 spoiled ballot. Cochran was elected.

Article 6 To elect a Lister for a term of three years.

Becky Jensen nominated Kirsten Szendry. There being no other nominations, Jerry Senturia moved that the nominations be closed and that the Town Clerk be instructed to cast one ballot for Kirsten Szendry. John Marshall seconded. An affirmative voice vote closed nominations and the Town Clerk was instructed to cast one ballot. Szendry elected.

Article 7 To elect an Auditor for a term of three years.

Charlie Browne nominated Jan Eastman. There being no other nominations, Jeremy White moved to close nominations and to instruct the Town Clerk to cast one ballot for Jan Eastman. Diana Senturia seconded. An affirmative voice vote closed the nominations and the Town Clerk was instructed to cast one vote for Eastman. Eastman elected.

- Article 8      To elect an Auditor for a term of two years.
- There being no nomination, Wendy Morgan moved that Article 8 be passed over and that Selectboard appoint an Auditor at a later date. Karen Fitzhugh seconded. A voice vote was held. Article 8 was passed over.
- Article 9      To elect a Grand Juror for a term of one year.
- Dick Browne nominated Charlie Browne. There being no further nominations, a voice vote was taken. Charlie Browne elected.
- Article 10     To elect a Town Agent for a term of one year.
- Dick Browne nominated Robert Fuehrer. There being no further nominations, a voice vote was taken. Fuehrer elected.
- Article 11     To elect a First Constable for a term of one year.
- Marilyn Magnus nominated John Sheehan. There being no further nominations, a voice vote was taken. Sheehan elected.
- Article 12     To elect a Second Constable for a term of one year.
- Jerry Senturia nominated Bill Thresher. There being no further nominations, a voice vote was taken. Thresher elected.
- Article 13     Shall the delinquent taxes be collected by the First Constable or shall the Town elect a Delinquent Tax Collector.
- Charlie Browne moved that the taxes be collected by the First Constable. Jerry Senturia seconded. Voice vote taken. First Constable elected to collect taxes.
- Article 14     To elect a Delinquent Tax Collector for the ensuing year.
- Passed over.
- Article 15     Shall the voters appropriate the following amounts to be applied in the following order, from the Surplus General Government Funds, if any, declared by the Town Treasurer:
1. First to pay off, to the extent surplus funds are available, any deficit incurred in 2008;
  2. Then if any Surplus Funds remain, those remaining funds shall be used to pay-off the outstanding loan used to construct the Peacham Firehouse;
  3. Then, if any Surplus Funds remain, \$100,000 of those remaining funds shall be used to reduce the amount to be raised by taxes to defray the General expenses of the Town;
  4. Then, if any surplus Funds remain, \$60,000 of those remaining funds shall be transferred to the Town's Retreatment Reserve Fund;
  5. Then, if any Surplus Funds remain, \$40,000 of those remaining funds shall be transferred to the Town's Capital Building Fund; and

6. Then, if any Surplus Funds remain, those remaining funds shall be placed in a Working Capital Reserve Fund to defray expenses of the Town and thereby reduce the need of the Town to borrow funds for its operation.

Dick Browne moved Article 15. Barry Lawson seconded. Article 15 discussed. Being no further discussion, the Moderator called for a voice vote. Article 15 passed.

Article 16      Shall the voters appropriate \$328,160 in taxes to defray Highway expenses.

Dean Monteith moved Article 16. Jeremy White seconded. Moderator called for a voice vote. Article 16 passed.

Article 17      Shall the voters appropriate \$261,092 in taxes to defray the General expenses of the Town.

Robert Fuehrer moved Article 17. Diana Senturia seconded. Barry Lawson moved to amend the amount appropriated in Article 17 by increasing it by \$250 for a total of \$261,342. The addition would be for the rental of the Peacham Congregational Church by the Town for the annual Town Meeting. Diana Senturia seconded. Moderator called for a voice vote on the amendment. The amendment passed. Discussion ensued. There being no further discussion, the Moderator called for a voice vote on Article 17 as amended. Article 17 passed.

Article 18      Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$19,808 to be raised by taxes in support of the following organizations:

A. Area Agency on Aging	\$660
B. Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice	\$2000
C. Catamount Arts	\$500
D. Danville Rescue Squad	\$5000
E. Danville Senior Action	\$300
F. Fairbanks Museum	\$650
G. NEK Human Services	\$698
H. NEK Learning Ser.	\$250
I. NEK Youth Services	\$500
J. Peacham Fire District # 1	\$1500
K. Peacham Library	\$5500
L. Umbrella	\$500
M. Cabot Ambulance	\$500
N. Rural Communities Transportation	\$250
O. West Danville Community Club	\$500
P. Vermont Assoc. of the Blind	\$500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$19,808</b>

Charlie Browne moved Article 18. Wendy Morgan seconded. Charlie Browne reviewed this year's appropriation requests. Charlie Browne moved to amend Article 18 to lower the amount for the Danville Rescue Squad by \$1000 at their request, making the total appropriation request of the Danville Rescue Squad \$4000, and lowering the overall total appropriations figure to \$18,808. Wendy Morgan seconded the amendment. The amendment passed by a voice vote. There being no further discussion, the Moderator called for a voice vote and Article 18 passed as amended.

Article 19      Shall the Town pay its real property taxes to the Town Treasurer on or before October 31, 2008 with delinquent taxes having interest charges of one percent per month and with an eight percent penalty charged against them from the due date.

Dick Browne moved Article 19. Diana Senturia seconded. Dick Browne moved to amend Article 19 to say October 30, 2009 not October 31, 2008 as warned. Wynne Browne seconded. Moderator called for a voice vote and the amendment passed. Article 19 passed as amended on a voice vote.

Article 20      To transact any other non-binding business that may legally come before the meeting.

1. John Marshall, speaking on behalf of the Peacham Congregational Church, thanked the voters for the \$250 addition to the budget for the use of the church.
2. Wendy Morgan suggested scheduling the Town Meeting at 4:30 PM on a weekday or Saturday in order to accommodate more voters.
3. Jerry Senturia spoke to the subject of holding a pre-Town Meeting.
4. Charlie Browne thanked Gary Swenson for his years of invaluable service to the Town as a Selectboard member.
5. Jock Gill commended the Auditors for dedicating this year's Town Report to Don Davis.
6. Town Lister, Becky Jensen, announced that the re-appraisal would be completed by June 4, 2009 and that the new appraisal amounts will be included in the tax figures for 2009.
7. Barry Lawson asked the voters to fill out the Economic Committee Survey before leaving the meeting.
8. Rebecca Johnson asked that newly elected Town officials please stand so they could be recognized.

Martha Ide moved that the meeting be adjourned. Dick Browne seconded. So voted.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 AM.

The foregoing is approved and attested by:

Peacham Selectboard

Moderator

Richard Browne

Robert Ide

Timothy McKay

Town Clerk

Andrew Cochran

Bruce Lafferty