

Minutes for the Town Meeting 2010

The legal voters of The Town of Peacham met at the Peacham Congregational Church in Peacham, on Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at 1:10 PM.

Article 1 To elect a Moderator to conduct and govern 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. John Casagrande seconded. There being no other nominations, Ide was elected by a voice vote.

Article 2 To receive the report of Town Auditors.

There being no auditors present, Rob Ide instructed voters to refer to page 12 of the Town Report.

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

Mike Bruton 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.

Kathy Corcoran nominated Bruce Lafferty for Town Treasurer. Mike Bruton seconded. 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.

Dave Magnus nominated Richard Browne for Selectboard. Mike Bruton seconded. There being no other nominations, Hilary Smith moved that nominations be closed and that the Clerk be instructed to cast one ballot for Richard Browne. Jerry Senturia seconded. An affirmative voice vote closed nominations and the Town Clerk was instructed to cast one ballot. Browne elected.

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

Jerry Senturia nominated Julie Kempton. There being no other nominations, Hilary Smith moved that nominations be closed and that the Clerk be instructed to cast one ballot for Julie Kempton. Diana Senturia seconded. An affirmative voice vote closed nominations and the Town Clerk was instructed to cast one ballot. Kempton elected.

Article 7 To elect a Lister for a term of two years.

Fred Fortin nominated Deborah Carpilio. There being no other nominations, Hilary Smith moved that nominations be closed and that the Clerk be instructed to cast one ballot for Deborah Carpilio. Diana Senturia seconded. An affirmative voice vote closed nominations and the Town Clerk was instructed to cast one ballot. Carpilio elected.

Article 8 To elect a Lister for a term of one year.

Paul Evans nominated Jeff Lamphere. There being no other nominations, Hilary Smith moved that nominations be closed and that the Clerk be instructed to cast one ballot for Jeff Lamphere.

Diana Senturia seconded. An affirmative voice vote closed nominations and the Town Clerk was instructed to cast one ballot. Lamphere elected.

Article 9 To elect an auditor for a term of three years.

Dave Magnus nominated Julie Kempton. There being no other nominations, Hilary Smith moved that nominations be closed and that the Clerk be instructed to cast one ballot for Julie Kempton. Diana Senturia seconded. An affirmative voice vote closed nominations and the Town Clerk was instructed to cast one ballot. Kempton elected.

Article 10 To elect a Grand Juror for the ensuing year.

Richard Browne nominated Charles Browne. There being no other nominations, Browne was elected by a voice vote.

Article 11 To elect a Town Agent for the ensuing year.

Charles Browne nominated Robert Fuehrer. There being no other nominations, Fuehrer was elected by a voice vote.

Article 12 To elect a Town Representative to the Board of the Peacham Library.

Charles Browne nominated Mark Clough for a two year term. There being no other nominations, Clough was elected by a voice vote.

Article 13 To elect a First Constable for the ensuing year.

Ann Mills nominated John Sheehan. There being no other nominations, Sheehan was elected by a voice vote.

Article 14 To elect a Second Constable for the ensuing year.

Jerry Senturia nominated Bill Thresher. There being no other nominations, Thresher was elected by a voice vote.

Article 15 To elect a Delinquent Tax Collector for the ensuing year.

Jerry Senturia nominated John Sheehan. There being no other nominations, Sheehan was elected by a voice vote.

Article 16 Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to be raised by taxes to study the possibilities for a new community center through an open public process with a report to the Town before the next regular Town Meeting?

Diana Senturia moved the article. Barry Lawson seconded. Richard Browne and Barry spoke to the question. Discussion followed. Jock Gill moved to amend the article to \$7500.00. There being no second, Gill withdrew his motion to amend the article. More discussion followed. Les Morrison moved to call the question. Jerry Senturia called for a paper ballot. There were 112 votes cast, 57 needed for passage. There were 54 affirmative votes and 58 no votes. Article 16 was defeated.

Article 17 Shall the voters increase the disabled veteran tax exemption from the current first \$20,000 of assessed value to the first \$40,000 of assessed value, which is the maximum authorized under Vermont Statute 32 V.S.A. Section 3802(11)?

Jerry Senturia moved the article. Diana Senturia seconded. The Moderator called for a voice vote and Article 17 passed.

- Article 18
- Shall the voters appropriate \$40,000 to be raised in taxes to be added to the Capital Building Fund?
- Diana Senturia moved the question. Jean Clark seconded. Richard Browne spoke to the question. The Moderator called for a voice vote. Article 18 passed.

- Article 19
- Shall the voters appropriate \$499,372 in taxes to defray Highway expenses?
- Kathy Corcoran moved the question. Diana Senturia seconded. Richard Browne spoke to article and explained that the requested amount was incorrect. Kathy Corcoran moved to amend the amount to be raised in taxes to \$395,372. Diana Senturia seconded. The Moderator called for a voice vote. The amendment passed. The Moderator then called for a voice vote for Article 19 which passed as amended.

- Article 20
- Shall the voters appropriate \$340,289 in taxes to defray the General expenses of the Town?
- Richard Scholes moved the question. Diana Senturia seconded. Richard Browne spoke to the article and explained that the requested amount was incorrect and should be \$188,339. Jerry Senturia moved to amend the amount to \$188,339. Charles Browne seconded. Richard Scholes moved to amend the amount by \$250.00 for rent to the Peacham Congregational Church, thereby increasing the General expenses of the Town to \$188,589. Diana Senturia seconded. The moderator called for a voice vote. The amendment to the amendment passed. The Moderator then called for a voice vote for the amendment as amended which passed. Finally, the Moderator called for a voice vote for Article 20 which passed as amended.

- Article 21
- Shall the voters approve renaming the Working Capital Reserve Fund by removing the word Reserve?
- Diana Senturia moved the question. Hilary Smith seconded. Richard Browne explained the need to remove the word Reserve. The Moderator called for a voice vote. Article 21 passed.

- Article 22
- Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$19,308.00 to be raised by taxes in support of the following organizations?

Area Agency on Aging	\$660.00
Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice	\$2,000.00
Catamount Arts	\$500.00
Danville Rescue Squad	\$5,000.00
Danville Senior Action	\$300.00
Fairbanks Museum	\$650.00
N. Rural Community Transportation	\$250.00
NEK Human Services	\$698.00
NEK Learning Services	\$250.00
NEK Youth Services	\$500.00
Peacham Fire District #1	\$1,500.00
Peacham Library	\$5,500.00
Umbrella	\$500.00
Vermont Association for the Blind	\$500.00
West Danville Community Club (Joe’s Pond Beach)	\$500.00

Charles Browne moved the question. Diana Senturia seconded. Charles Browne moved to amend the amount for the Danville Rescue to \$4000 which is the amount appropriated last year. Dave Magnus seconded. The letter from Danville Rescue Squad, included in the Town Report, asked for \$5000.00. The Moderator called for a voice vote to amend the amount for Danville Rescue from \$5000.00 to \$4000.00. The amendment was defeated. Richard Scholes moved to amend the appropriations amount to add \$500 for Cabot Ambulance Service. Diana Senturia seconded. Jerry Senturia moved to amend the amendment to include language which would necessitate a written request from Cabot Ambulance Service before they received the \$500.00. Charles Browne seconded. The Moderator called for a voice vote. The amendment to the amendment calling for the written request passed. The Moderator then called for a voice vote for the amendment as amended which passed. The Moderator called for a voice vote for Article 22 as amended to appropriate the sum of \$19,808.00. The article passed.

Article 23 Shall the Town pay its real property taxes to the Town Treasurer on or before November 1, 2010, with delinquent taxes having interest charges of one percent per month and with an eight percent penalty charged against them from the due date?

Diana Senturia moved Article 23. Richard Scholes seconded. The Moderator called for a voice vote. The article passed.

Article 24 Shall the voters of Peacham request the Vermont Legislature to:

1. Deny approval for the operation of Vermont Yankee after March of 2012, which marks the end of its 40 year design life.
2. Require that the Entergy Corporation of Louisiana fulfill its pledge to fully fund the cleanup and decommissioning costs of closing Vermont Yankee.
3. Seek safe, renewable, regional sources of electricity combined with efficiency and conservation measures to replace the power presently provided by Vermont Yankee.

Jerry Senturia moved Article 24. Ben Post seconded. The Moderator called for a voice vote. The article passed.

Article 25 To transact any other non-binding business that may legally come before the meeting.

1. The Moderator announced that following the conclusion of Town Meeting the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District polls will move to the Town Clerk's office and remain open until 7:00 PM.
2. The Moderator thanked Cher Monteith and her kitchen staff for organizing today's lunch.
3. The Moderator thanked Mary Ellen Griffin for acting as Town Attorney in John Marshall's absence.

- 4. Barry Lawson thanked the Town for their support of the Community Center in spite of the article’s defeat. He also spoke about the challenges facing the Town regarding affordable housing.
- 5. Kathy Corcoran asked if, in the future, school salaries for individual personnel not be published in the Town Report.
- 6. Don Moore thanked the Road Crew and Selectboard for maintaining the roads so well.
- 7. Dave Stauffer announced that the next Collaborator’s Meeting would be at the Peacham Library on Saturday, March 06, 2010 at 8:00 AM.
- 8. Becky Jensen thanked the Town for the appropriation for the library.
- 9. The Selectboard Chairman, Richard Browne, thanked the Peacham Congregational Church for use of the building for Town Meeting. He also thanked the Peacham Fire and Rescue Departments for their excellent services throughout the year.

Martha Ide moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mike Bruton seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.

The foregoing is approved and attested by:

Peacham Selectboard

Moderator

Richard Browne

Robert Ide

Timothy McKay

Town Clerk

Andrew Cochran

Bruce Lafferty