

**ABSTRACTS OF MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MARCH 1, 2016**

The Annual Town Meeting was held on Tuesday, March 1, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. e.s.t. at the Twin Valley Middle/High School in the Town of Whitingham, Vermont Agreeable to warning.

Article 1

Voted to accept reports of the Town Officers and act thereon.

Article 2

Voted to transfer the balance of the Act 60 Litigation Fund to the Grand List Reappraisal Fund.

Article 3

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$562,592.00** for the general use of the Town for fiscal year July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017. **\$287,221.00** to be raised in taxes, the balance to be offset by **\$187,259.00** in anticipated revenues, and **\$88,112.00** appropriated from prior year's fund balance.

Article 4

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$110,000.00** for the Town Use of School Property for the fiscal year July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017.

Article 5

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$7,093.00** for the upkeep and improvement of the Town Hill Common for fiscal year July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

Article 6

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$72,058.00** for the operation of the Town Fire Department for fiscal year July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

Article 7

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$20,000.00** for the Fire Department Equipment Fund for fiscal year July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

Article 8

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$1,253,062.00** for the maintenance and repair of Town Highways for fiscal year July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017. **\$1,114,935.00** to be raised in taxes, offset by **\$119,146.00** in anticipated revenues and previous year balance of **\$18,981.00**.

Article 9

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$85,000.00** for the Highway Equipment Fund for fiscal year July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017.

Article 10

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$76,355.00** for the operation of the Whitingham Free Public Library for fiscal year July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017 with **\$63,580.00** to be raised in taxes, and the balance to be offset by **\$12,775.00** in anticipated donations.

Article 11

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$10,000.00** for the Municipal Facilities Fund for fiscal year July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017 for continued maintenance.

Article 12

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$10,000.00** for the continuing support of Deerfield Valley Rescue for fiscal year July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

Article 13

Voted to make taxes due and payable on or before November 1, 2016 with ninety-days' notice.

Article 14

Voted to charge interest on delinquent taxes at a rate of one percent (1%) per month for the first three (3) months and one and one-half percent (1 ½%) per month thereafter for fiscal year taxes.

Article 15

Voted to authorize its town treasurer to collect current taxes pursuant to 32 V.S.A. §4791.

Article 16

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$16,900.00** for the operation of Town Cemeteries for fiscal year July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

Article 17

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$10,000.00** for support of Old Home Week activities for 2016.

Article 18

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$4,700.00** (based on the percentage of students participating in Whitingham & Wilmington), to the new Twin Valley Youth Sports Program in an effort to provide quality opportunities for ALL children to participate and develop the skills necessary to become successful players, while building each student/athletes social, physical and psychological well-being.

Article 19

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,795.00** to the Wings Community Program's Celebrate Summer program that provides 4 weeks of summer programming, arts, physical activities for youth, entering Kindergarten to those entering 5th grade.

Article 20

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$4,000.00** to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse and Hospice for VT and NH.

Article 21

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,203.00** to help support outpatient, mental health, and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care and Rehabilitations Services, Inc. (HCRS)

Article 22

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$250.00** to Brattleboro Area Hospice for general budget support.

Article 23

Voted to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of **\$3,000.00** for the support of Pool Learning Center, 117 Adams Crossroad, Marlboro, to provide services to residents of the Town.

Article 24

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,500.00** to the Deerfield Valley Community Partnership, an organization that provides programming and activities for youth and families that promote healthy behaviors and prevent youth drug and alcohol use.

Article 25

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$2,100.00** to support Economic Development in Whitingham for the fiscal year July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

Article 26

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,000.00** for Deerfield Valley Community Cares, an organization that provides fuel assistance for those not on state aid.

Article 27

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$850.00** to the Women’s Freedom Center for general budget support to provide services to women and their children who are experiencing emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse and are residents of the Town.

Article 28

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$750.00** for Senior Solutions-The Council on Aging for Southeastern VT, Inc. to serve elders and **\$305.00** for Green Mtn RSVP to train and support senior volunteers.

Article 29

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$500.00** to the Deerfield Valley Food Pantry, Inc. an organization that provides food and other basic personal care items to all those who ask for assistance.

Article 30

Voted to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$200.00** for the Windham County Disaster Animal Recover Team (“WinDART”) in order to assist in the care and sheltering of pets in the event of a local emergency.

Article 31

Voted to allow the Whitingham Free Public Library to spend grant monies and donations at the discretion of the Board of Trustees and Library Director.

Article 32

Elected the following town officers by Australian ballot:

Leon L. Corse, Moderator, 1 year	Almira L. Aekus, Treasurer, 1 year
Almira L. Aekus, Town Clerk, 3 years	Gregory S. Brown, Selectboard, 3 years
Allan L. Twitchell, Selectboard, 2 years	Jenepher Burnell, Lister 3 years
Susan Cooke Johnson, Grand Juror, 1 year	Susan Cooke Johnson, Town Agent, 3 years
Almira L. Aekus, Collector of Del. Taxes, 1 year	Lucas Earle, Library Trustee, 3 years
Maryann Johnson, Library Trustee, 3 years	No winner - Cemetery Commissioner, 3 years

Article 33

To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 01:37 p.m.

Dated at Whitingham, Vermont, 2nd day of March 2016.

Almira L. Aekus

Almira L. Aekus, Town Clerk

