

**TOWN OF WHITINGHAM
ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
March 7, 2017**

The annual school district meeting was held on Tuesday, March 7, 2017, at 02:25 p.m. e.s.t. At the Twin Valley Middle/High School in the town of Whitingham, Vermont, agreeable to the warning.

Moderator Leon Corse appointed the Board of Civil Authority and School Board Directors as ballot clerks for the duration of the Annual School District Meeting. He asked for and received permission to dispense with the reading of the warning.

ARTICLE I.

To elect all Town School District officers required by law to be elected at the Annual Town School District Meeting. Australian Ballot Polls opened at 10:00 a.m. and closed at 7:00 p.m. with the following results:

MODERATOR, 1 year

Leon L. Corse	237	Seth Boyd	1
Blank	9	Spoiled	0

SCHOOL DIRECTOR, 3 years

Seth D. Boyd	222	Amanda Bolduc	1
Mary Lemaire	1	Sherry Adams	1
Blank	22	Spoiled	0

SCHOOL DIRECTOR, 2 years (2 school directors were elected)

Sharon Berry	149	Clare Watkin	187
Blank	157	Spoiled	1

ARTICLE II.

Shall the voters of the School District approve the School Board to expend \$9,445,523, which is the amount the School board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved will result in education spending of \$20,462 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 14.5% higher than spending for the current year. (Australian Ballot Polls opened at 10:00 a.m. and closed at 7:00 p.m. with the following results:

Yes:	64
No:	155
Blank:	28

ARTICLE III.

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

Selectboard member Robin Kingsley stated the possible litigation in regards to the school has nothing to do with the school board and stated the school board does a fabulous job. The selectboard was hoping to work with the school board to get something done in regards to the state and the funding of education.

Dwight Williams asked for clarification in the event the school budget was defeated that the budget

would go back to the prior year's budget. School Director Seth Boyd stated the law had changed and in that event the budget would be voted on repeatedly until June 30th or it passed whichever came first. If a budget was not passed at that point the school directors could borrow up to eighty-seven percent of the previous year's budget which would be a \$500,000 reduction from the current budget.

Dana Dix questioned if the next budget vote would be by Australian ballot. Mr. Boyd stated it would be and that there would be informational meetings.

Seth Boyd reminded the electorate there would be an Act 46 informational meeting on Wednesday, March 8th at 6:30 p.m. at the Deerfield Valley Elementary School in Wilmington. He encourages the electorate to attend.

Aimee Reed stated, for clarification what it would mean if the town continued to vote down the budget. She said that when a budget is not passed it creates un-certainty for the staff, faculty and administration. In addition, the administration had worked very hard for the last 8 years to hire good staff and create stability which enabled the students to do very well. She does not want to good teachers to leave as the longer it takes to pass a budget there may be teachers looking for jobs and it would have a negative effect on the students.

A motion was made and seconded from the floor to adjourn. Motion carried by voice vote.

The Annual Town School District meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD

ATTEST:




Almira L. Aekus, Town Clerk

ATTESTED AND APPROVED:




Leigh L. Corse, Moderator



Vanda N. Warner, Chair

Board of Civil Authority

NUMBER OF VOTERS ON THE CHECKLIST - 882
NUMBER WHO VOTED - AUSTRALIAN BALLOT - 247
HIGHEST NUMBER VOTED FROM THE FLOOR - 100 (estimate)

WILMINGTON, VERMONT
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED FOR RECORD
this 13 day of APR A.D. 2017 at
02 o'clock 00 minutes P M. and
Recorded in Vol. 11 at Page 495
of LAND RECORDS
Attest 
Town Clerk