

**ABSTRACTS OF MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
MARCH 3, 2015**

The Annual Town Meeting was held on Tuesday, March 3, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. e.s.t. at the Whitingham Municipal Center in the Town of Whitingham, Vermont agreeable to the warning.

At 10:00 a.m. Moderator Leon Corse led the salute to the flag. Town Clerk Almira Aekus declared the polls open. The moderator appointed the Board of Civil Authority as ballot clerks for the duration of the meeting.

Article 1

Voted to accept the reports of the Town Officers.

Article 2

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$692,787.00** for the general use of the Town for fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016. **\$376,304.00** to be raised in taxes, the balance to be offset by **\$179,429.00** in anticipated revenues, and **\$137,054.00** appropriated from prior year's fund balance.

Article 3

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$7,509.00** for the upkeep and improvement of the Town Hill Common for fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Article 4

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$70,335.00** for the operation of the Town Fire Department for fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Article 5

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$20,000.00** for the Fire Department Equipment Fund for fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Article 6

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$1,243,512.00** for the maintenance and repair of Town Highways for fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016. **\$1,080,230.00** to be raised in taxes, offset by **\$114,800.00** in anticipated revenues and previous year balance of **\$48,482.00**.

Article 7

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$80,000.00** for the Highway Equipment Fund for fiscal year July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016.

Article 8

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$74,543.00** for the operation of the Whitingham Free Public Library for fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016 with **\$62,278.00** to be raised in taxes, and the balance to be offset by **\$12,265.00** in anticipated donations.

Article 9

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$10,000.00** for the Municipal Facilities Fund for fiscal year July 1, 2015– June 30, 2016 for continued maintenance.

Article 10

Voted raise and appropriate **\$10,000.00** for the continuing support of Deerfield Valley Rescue for fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Article 11

Voted to make taxes due and payable on or before November 2, 2016 with ninety-day' notice.

Article 12

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 13

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$16,400.00** for the operation of Town Cemeteries for fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Article 14

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

Article 15

Voted continue to allow the Selectboard to utilize the **\$120,000.00** user fee allocated for use of the school property as in the past, in the following manner: **\$110,000.00** for Town use of school property and **\$10,000.00** for Wings for fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Article 16

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$4,700.00** for Valley Youth Sports programming for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Article 17

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$1,795.00** for Wings for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Article 18

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$3,750.00** to support the work of the Visiting Nurse Association for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Article 19

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$3,000.00** for the operation of the Pool Learning Center, for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Article 20

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$2,500.00** for the Deerfield Valley Community Partnerships to assist with the cost of providing programming and activities to prevent youth drug and alcohol abuse, for the fiscal year July 1, 2015– June 30, 2016.

Article 21

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$2,100.00** to support Economic Development in Whitingham for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Article 22

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$1,200.00** for Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Article 23

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$1,000.00** for Deerfield Valley Community Cares for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Article 24

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$850.00** to the Women's Crisis Center.

Article 25

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$750.00** to support the Council on Aging now known as Senior Solutions.

Article 26

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$500.00** to support the work of the Deerfield Valley Food Pantry.

Article 27

Voted to raise and appropriate **\$305.00** to the Green Mountain Retired Senior Volunteer Program for general budget support.

Article 28

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 29

Elected the following town officers by Australian ballot:

Leon L. Corse, Moderator, 1 year
Karl P. Twitchell, Selectboard, 2 years
Howard Dix, Lister, 3 years
Susan Cooke Johnson, Town Agent, 1 year
Christina Clough, Library Trustee, 3 years
Dana Dix, Cemetery Commissioner, 3 years

Almira L. Aekus, Treasurer, 1 year
Robin W. Kingsley, Selectboard, 3 years
Susan Cooke Johnson, Grand Juror, 1 year
Almira L. Aekus, Collector of Taxes, 1 year
Tyler Colford, Library Trustee, 3 years

Article 30

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

Discussions included: Housing Rehabilitation Committee available funds for low income loans and location of the annual town meeting.

Meeting adjourned 01:40 p.m.

Dated at Whitingham, Vermont this 4th day of March 2015.

Almira Aekus, Town Clerk