

Tuesday, March 8th 2011

Minutes of Town Meeting

WOODSTOCK, NEW HAMPSHIRE

March 8, 2011

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Moderator D. Kenneth Chapman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A motion was made by Doris Roth to dispense with the reading of the entire warrant and to open the polls, seconded by Marion Walsh – unanimous affirmative vote. Polls were closed at 6:00 p.m.

The Business Meeting was called to order at 7:50 p.m. The Moderator welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Moderator explained the rules of the meeting

1. All cell phones must be shut off;
2. Speakers must stand and identify themselves;
3. Only registered voters may speak and vote;
4. Anyone not a registered voter wishing to address an issue may do so only with the permission of the Moderator;
5. Motions for reconsideration must be made immediately after the vote is announced on the article;
6. The Moderator's rules can be challenged or overruled by the voters.

So moved by Daniel Garipay, seconded by Paul Rand.
Unanimous affirmative vote to accept rules.

Article 1: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing:
1-Selectman, 1 Fire Chief, 1 Library Trustee, 1 Trustee of Trust Fund, 3 Cemetery Trustee, 3 Budget Committee, 2 Planning Board, 3 Floodplain Board of Adjustment.

Selectman for Three Years (vote for one)

Gil Rand 163

Robert McAfee 32

Fire Chief for One Year (vote for one)

William R. Mellett 171

Thomas Sabourn 5

Library Trustee for Three Years (vote for one)

Deborah Showalter 184

Trustee of Trust Funds for Three Years (vote for one)
Brad K. Wilkinson 170

Cemetery Trustee for Three Years (vote for one)
Ruth J. Ballmer 176

Cemetery Trustee for Two Years (vote for one)
Barbara Avery 188

Cemetery Trustee for One Year (vote for one)
Donna Wyre 178

Budget Committee for Three Years (vote for two)
Roberta Vigneault 137
Bonnie Ham 139

Budget Committee for Two Years (vote for one)
Stephen Tower 114
Paul Bankosky 33

Planning Board for Three Years (vote for two)
Bonnie Ham 147
Anne-Marie Perry 143

Floodplain Board of Adjustment for Three Years (vote for one)
Mark Harrington 189

Floodplain Board of Adjustment for Two Years (vote for one)
Anne-Marie Perry 173

Floodplain Board of Adjustment for One Year (vote for one) – no one elected

Article 2: To see if the town will vote to adopt an ordinance regarding penning of chickens, guinea hens and other fowl?

The Moderator read the following ordinance aloud:

WHEREAS the Town of Woodstock finds that chickens, guinea hens, and other fowl currently roam freely around town;

WHEREAS free roaming fowl are problematic in that they can cause traffic, health, safety, and welfare issues;

WHEREAS RSA 31:39, I(b) allows towns to make a bylaws for prevention of the going at large of horses and other domestic animals in any public place in town;

NOW THEREFORE the Town of Woodstock hereby ordains as follows:

1. All chickens, guinea hens, and other fowl kept by any person or entity in town must be contained in a pen or a building so that they are not at large on any public place in town, including any public right of way.
2. Violations of this ordinance shall result in a civil penalty in the amounts of \$100.00 for the first offense, \$250.00 for the second offense, \$500.00 for the third offense, and \$1000.00 for the fourth and all subsequent offenses.

So moved by Daniel Garipay, seconded by Paul Rand.

The Moderator received a request for a secret ballot signed by six registered voters.

Article 2 defeated. (68 No Votes – 13 Yes Votes)

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to voice its objection, opposition and commitment to stop the construction of any portion of the 1200 Megawatt High Voltage Direct Current Transmission Line in the Town of Woodstock as presently proposed by Northeast Utilities, NStar, and Hydro-Quebec. As proposed, the transmission line appears to create a huge scar through the Town's treasured residential and scenic private properties, which the Town believes will cause inestimable damage to the orderly economic development of the Town, its economy, and the health and wellbeing of its residents.

So moved by Susan Young, seconded by William Mellett. Unanimous affirmative vote to accept Article 3.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand (\$10,000) to be placed in the existing Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

So moved by Jack Richardson, seconded by Alfred Simensen. Unanimous affirmative vote to accept Article 4.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be placed in the existing Water Department Capital Improvements Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

So moved by Sherry Hoover, seconded by Jay Polimeno. Unanimous affirmative vote to accept Article 5.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand

Dollars (\$2,000) to be placed in the existing Library Computer Equipment Expendable Trust Fund. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

So moved by Judith Boyle, seconded by Victoria Downes-Etchings. Unanimous affirmative vote to accept Article 6.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the existing Main Street Revitalization Expendable Trust Fund. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

So moved by Marty Talbot, seconded by Sherry Hoover. Unanimous affirmative vote to accept Article 7.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the existing Solid Waste Facility Improvements Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

So moved by Charles Harrington, seconded by Marion Walsh. Unanimous affirmative vote to accept Article 8.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the existing Highway Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

So moved by David Talbot, seconded by Paul Rand. Unanimous affirmative vote to accept Article 9.

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be placed in the existing Highway Heavy Duty Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

So moved by Susan Young, seconded by Anne-Marie Perry. Unanimous affirmative vote to accept Article 10.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Million Five Hundred Eighty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$2,588,430) for the operating budget. This amount does not include any articles voted separately. The Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

So moved by Susan Young, seconded by Charles Harrington. Unanimous affirmative vote to accept Article 11.

Article 12: To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Ken recognized the marriages, births, and deaths listed in the town report.

Paula Mackay questioned rumors of a committee that was formed to renegotiate our portion of the school budget and what the impact was going to be on our tax rate. Joel Bourassa stated the members of the Tax Rate Formula Negotiating Committee were Jay Polimeno, Suzanne Fadden, and himself. Joel stated that they negotiated with equal representation from the Town of Lincoln at the school to keep the tax rate formula where it is for the Town of Woodstock. The Town of Lincoln wanted to make it more equitable for Lincoln, which meant we would have to pay more and they would be paying less. Based on the amount of taxable property in the Town of Lincoln verses the Town of Woodstock the decision was made to leave it alone and revisit in 2 years instead of the usual 5 years.

Jim recognized the passing of Jenny Smith. Jenny was the oldest citizen in the Town of Woodstock and was the holder of the Boston Post Cane. Ken read a "Thank You" note from the family of Jennie Smith, thanking the community for all they had done for her.

Fred Englert recognized and thanked Bill Mellett for his 45 years of dedicated service.

Victoria Downes-Etchings introduced two foreign exchange students that are staying with families within our community.

Susan Young recognized the passing of long time resident Priscilla Cox.

The Board of Selectmen thanked Bill Mellett for his 45 years of dedicated service and also thanked the many volunteers that we have serving on our committees and departments.

Patrick Griffin requested that a Warrant Article for 2012 be added to appropriate enough money to buy the Jaws of Life for the Fire Department rescue truck.

Adjourned at 9:00 p. m.