

Waterford Annual Town Meeting
Waterford School Gym
March 3, 2020

The Inhabitants of the Town of Waterford who are legal voters in said town are hereby notified and warned to meet in the auditorium of the Waterford School on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

Moderator Maurice Chaloux opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Representative Marcia Martrel touched base on some of the bills that are being acted upon. She discussed some of the major bills which include paid family leave and minimum wage.

Maurice Chaloux asked if there was any objection to not reading the whole warning and just proceeding to the first article. There was no objection.

Article 1: To elect a Moderator for the year ensuing.

Kate Piper nominated Maurice Chaloux. There were no further nominations. Donna Heath seconded the motion. The Moderator declared the nominations closed. A unanimous voice vote in the affirmative elected Maurice Chaloux as Moderator for the ensuing year.

Article 2: Will the Town authorize the Selectmen to borrow money to defray expenses until taxes are collected?

Dave Morrison made the motion to authorize the Selectmen to borrow money to defray expenses until taxes are collected. Howard Remick seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote authorized the Selectmen to borrow money to defray expenses until taxes are collected.

Article 3: To elect the following Town Officers:

A Town Clerk for a term of three years. By ballot.

Joanne Jurentkuff nominated Jessy Pelow as Town Clerk for a term of three years. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared nominations close. Dave Morrison made the motion to have the Selectboard cast one ballot for Jessy Pelow for Town Clerk for three years. Howard Remick seconded the motion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote passed the motion. The Selectboard cast one ballot for Jessy Pelow for Town Clerk for three years.

A Town Treasurer for a term of three years. By ballot.

Pam Bullock nominated Steve Eddy as Town Treasurer for a term of three years. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared nominations closed. Dave Morrison made the motion to have the Town Clerk cast one ballot for Steve Eddy for Town Treasurer for three years. Howard Remick seconded the motion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote passed the motion. The Town Clerk cast one ballot for Steve Eddy for Town Treasurer for three years.

A Selectman for a term of three years. By ballot.

Sandy Lyon nominated Frederick Saar as selectman for a term of three years. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared nominations closed. Dave Morrison made the motion to have the Town Clerk cast one ballot for Frederick Saar for Selectman for three years. Howard Remick seconded the motion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote passed the motion. The Town Clerk cast one ballot for Frederick Saar for selectmen for three years.

A Lister for a term of three years. By ballot.

Howard Remick nominated Michael Keach. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed. Dave Morrison made the motion to have the Town Clerk cast one ballot for Michael Keach for Lister for three years. Howard Remick seconded the motion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote passed the motion. The town clerk cast one ballot for Michael Keach for Lister for three years.

An Auditor for a term of three years. By ballot.

Mary Jo Lote nominated Sandy Lyon for Auditor for a term of three years. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared nominations closed. Dave Morrison made the motion to have the Town Clerk cast one ballot for Sandy Lyon for Auditor for three years. Howard Remick seconded the motion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote passed the motion. The Town Clerk cast one ballot for Sandy Lyon for Auditor for three years.

A First Constable for a term of one year.

Howard Remick nominated Thomas Lawrence for First Constable for a term of one year. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed. A unanimous voice vote in the affirmative elected Thomas Lawrence for First Constable for a term of one year.

A Second Constable for a term of one year.

Dave Morrison nominated Anthony Gallotto for Second Constable for a term of one year. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed. A unanimous voice vote in the affirmative elected Anthony Gallotto for Second Constable for a term of one year.

A Grand Juror for a term of one year.

Roberta Horowitz nominated Elizabeth Kanell for Grand Juror for a term of one year. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed. A unanimous voice vote in the affirmative elected Elizabeth Kanell for Grand Juror for a term of one year.

A Town Agent to serve until the next annual meeting and until a successor is chosen.

Howard Remick nominated Gerard Jones for Town Agent to serve until the next annual meeting and until a successor is chosen. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed. A unanimous voice vote in the affirmative elected Gerard Jones for Town Agent to serve until the next annual meeting and until a successor is chosen.

A Library Trustee for a term of three years.

Tim Yarrow nominated Colleen Kozlowski for Library Trustee for a term of three years. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed. A unanimous voice vote in the affirmative elected Colleen Kozlowski for Library Trustee for a term of three years.

A Library Trustee for a term of three years.

David Hipkins nominated Caroline d'Anjou for Library Trustee for a term of three years. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed. A unanimous voice vote in the affirmative elected Caroline d'Anjou for Library Trustee for a term of three years.

A Library Trustee for a term of three years.

Colleen Kozlowski nominated Joseph Healy for Library Trustee for a term of three years. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed. A unanimous voice vote in the affirmative elected Joseph Healy for Library Trustee for a term of three years.

A Library Trustee for the completion of a 2-year term.

Caroline d'Anjou nominated Carrie Ross for Library Trustee for the remaining two-years of a three-year term previously held by Kandis Barrett who resigned.

Pamela Bullock nominated Christa Simmons Benish for Library Trustee for the remaining two-years of a three-year term. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed and a ballot vote will be taken. After a ballot vote of 35 for Carrie Ross and 22 for Christa Simmons Benish, Carrie Ross was elected Library Trustee for the remaining of a two-year term.

An Agent to Convey Real Estate owned by the Town for a term of one year.

Howard Remick nominated Rosemary Gingue for Agent to Convey Real Estate owned by the Town for a term of one year. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed. A unanimous voice vote in the affirmative elected Rosemary Gingue for Agent to Convey Real Estate owned by the Town for a term of one year.

Article 4: Will the Town and Town School District vote to have the Town and Town School taxes paid to the Town Treasurer on or before October 15, 2020 with an 8% collector's fee to be added thereafter? Taxes must be paid on or before the due date. Title 32. Postmarks will NOT be honored as timely payment.

Howard Remick made the motion to have the Town and Town School taxes paid to the Town Treasurer on or before October 15, 2020 with an 8% collector's fee to be added thereafter? Taxes must be paid on or before the due date. Title 32. Postmarks will NOT be honored as timely payment. Dave Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A unanimous voice vote in the affirmative passed the motion and Article 4 was adopted.

Article 5: Will the Town levy an interest charge on all delinquent taxes on real and personal property of 1% per month or fraction thereof, as provided in 32 VSA Section 5135?

Howard Remick made the motion for the Town to levy an interest charge on all delinquent taxes on real and personal property of 1% per month or fraction thereof, as provided in 32 VSA Section 5135. Dave Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote passed the motion and Article 5 was adopted.

Article 6: Shall the Town of Waterford vote to apply any surplus from the current fiscal year to reduce taxes in general fund to reduce taxes in the next fiscal year?

Howard Remick made the motion to apply any surplus from the current fiscal year fund to reduce taxes in the next fiscal year. Dave Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote passed the motion and Article 6 was adopted.

Article 7: Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$13,200 to the Davies Memorial Library for the maintenance and operation of the library?

Howard Remick made the motion to appropriate \$13,200 to the Davies Memorial Library for the maintenance and operation of the library. Colleen Kozlowski seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote appropriated \$13,200 to the Davies Memorial Library.

Article 8: Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$400.00 to Rural Community Transportation?

Howard Remick made the motion to appropriate \$400.00 to Rural Community Transportation. Dave Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote appropriated \$400.00 to Rural Community Transportation.

Article 9: Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$500.00 to Catamount Arts?

Mike Barrett made the motion to appropriate \$500.00 to Catamount Arts. Colleen Kozlowski seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote appropriated \$500.00 to Catamount Arts.

Article 10: Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$1000.00 to Umbrella, Inc. to serve victims of domestic and sexual violence with The Advocacy Program supportive and protective services, as well as to provide safe, supervised visits for children and non-residential parents through The Family Room?

Paul Cranmer made the motion to appropriate \$1000.00 to Umbrella, Inc. Tim Yarrow seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote appropriated \$1000.00 to Umbrella, Inc.

Article 11: Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$1250.00 to Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice to be used in providing health care services?

Elizabeth Kanell made the motion to appropriate \$1250.00 to Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice to be used in providing health care services. Howard Rennie seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote appropriated \$1250.00 to Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice.

Article 12: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1104.00 for the operation of Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium during the ensuing year, in exchange for free unlimited general admission to the Museum for all Waterford residents?

Colleen Kozlowski made the motion to appropriate the sum of \$1104.00 for the operation of Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium during the ensuing year, in exchange for free unlimited general admission to the Museum for all Waterford residents. Mike Barrett seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote appropriated \$1104.00 for the operation of Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium.

Article 13: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to assist the NEK Council on Aging in providing services to senior citizens in the ensuing year?

Paul Cranmer made the motion to appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to assist the NEK Council on Aging in providing services to senior citizens in the ensuing year. Mike Barrett seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote appropriated \$500.00 to NEK Council on Aging.

Article 14: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$750.00 to support the programs of Northeast Kingdom Youth Services?

Kate Piper made the motion to appropriate the sum of \$750.00 to support the programs of Northeast Kingdom Youth Services. Colleen Kozlowski seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote appropriated \$750.00 to Northeast Kingdom Youth Services.

Article 15: Shall the Town vote to raise, appropriate and expend the sum of \$1159.00 for the support of Northeast Kingdom Human Services Inc., a not-for-profit 501c(3) organization, to assist in providing psychiatric mental health services to residents of Caledonia, Essex and Orleans Counties?

Paul Cranmer made the motion to appropriate the sum of \$1159.00 for the support of Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc. a not-for-profit 501c(3) organization, to assist in providing psychiatric mental health services to residents of Caledonia, Essex and Orleans Counties. Kate Piper seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote appropriated \$1159.00 to Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.

Article 16: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$200.00 to the Northeast Kingdom Learning Services Inc.?

Howard Rennie made the motion to appropriate the sum of \$200.00 to the Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, Inc. Mary Jo O'Neill seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote appropriated \$200.00 to the Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, Inc.

Article 17: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to the Kingdom Animal Shelter to assist in maintaining services for the animals in our care?

Caroline d'Anjou made the motion to appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to the Kingdom Animal Shelter to assist in maintaining services for the animals in their care. Colleen Kozlowski seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote appropriated \$500.00 to the Kingdom Animal Shelter.

Article 18: To suggest members to the Development Review Board for four years.

Dave Morrison suggested Dorothy Borsodi. Dot respectfully declined.

Article 19: To suggest members to the Planning Board for three years.

Dave Morrison suggested Mike Barrett.

Article 20: To hear reports of Town Boards, Commissions and Committees.

The Library Trustees announced their Block Party on June 5th at the Waterford Fire Department. There will be two vendors as well as local music. The Library board of trustees acknowledged Colleen Kozlowski for all her efforts on the board and presented her with flowers. Standing ovation was given to Bill Willis for his Town Report dedication.

Bill Willis announced an available program called CARE (Citizens Assistance Registry for Emergencies) This program allows the elderly, people with limited mobility, or those who require specialized medical equipment to get extra help during a disaster. CARE allows local emergency responders access to their information so they can better help individuals during an evacuation, power outage or similar event. Ryan Aremburg stated that the Waterford Fire Department has 911 signs available for purchase at \$20.00 per sign.

Howard Rennie reported for the Listers that this year will be the Town wide reappraisal and the new appraisal values are expected to reflect on the 2021 tax bills. It was asked for an informational posting, by the town Listers, for items of review at the time of the appraisal.

Helen Pike spoke on behalf of the Historical Society (Donna Heath, Roberta Smith, Craig Brown, Beth Kanel) that their calendar schedule is available and if interested in being a member of the History group to reach out to any current member.

Mike Barrett, Planning Board Chair, thanked past members for their efforts and spoke about the current work being accomplished by the board.

Robin Migdelany is the point of contact for the Waterford Road Tenders. Program. She would like to gather contact emails to update her contact information.

It was reported that Green-Up day will be May 2nd and is being organized by the Waterford 8th grade. Rosemary Gingue spoke briefly about food scraps and the State of VT mandatory law being implemented on July 1st.

Article 21: Will the Town accept the proposed Town Budget of \$1,234,579.00 of which \$975,881.00 is to be raised by taxes?

Dave Morrison made the motion to accept the proposed Town Budget of \$1,234,579.00 of which \$975,881.00 is to be raised by taxes. Howard Rennie seconded the motion. There was discussion regarding items of increase. A unanimous voice vote in the affirmative accepted the Town Budget of \$1,234,579.00

Article 22: Will the Town accept the Town's portion of the Town Report for the year 2019?

Howard Rennie made the motion to accept the Town's portion of the Town Report for the year 2019. Dave Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A unanimous affirmative voice vote accepted the Town's portion of the Town Report for 2019.

Article 23: At what hour next year do the voters of the Town wish to start the annual meeting?

Jennifer Smith made the motion to set the time for Town Meeting 2021 at 6:00pm. Nancy Brochu seconded the motion. After discussion from the floor Paul Cranmer moved to amend the motion by changing the time to 5:00pm. The motion was seconded by Tim Yarrow. A voice vote was taken that was inconclusive. The moderator then called for a standing vote. The motion passed on a vote of 35 in favor to 31 opposed. Then the moderator called for the vote on the main motion as amended. Gary Allard requested a secret ballot and he was sustained by 6 voters, so the vote was taken by paper ballot. The main motion as amended passed on a vote of 52 in favor and 18 opposed.

Article 24: Shall the Town of Waterford enter into a communications union district (CUD) to be known as NEK Community Broadband, under the provisions of 30 V.S.A. ch 82?

Kate Piper made the motion for the Town of Waterford to enter into a communications union district (CUD) to be known as NEK Community Broadband, under the provisions of 30V.S.A. ch 82. Paul Cranmer seconded the motion. There was discussion regarding the need for broadband and by joining communication union district, that does not obligate the Town or individual for paying. The motion passed.

Article 25: To transact any other non-binding business proper and necessary that may come before said meeting.

There was discussion regarding the Corona Virus and the Selectboard responded that individuals should seek information from the CDC. There was a reminder that the Caledonian Cooperative school vote will be in May.

Dave Morrison made a motion to adjourn. Kate Piper seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:34AM.

Jessy Pelow, Town Clerk

Date: 3/17/20

Fred Saar, Selectman

Date: 3/17/20

Maurice Chaloux, Moderator

Date: 3/17/20

William Piper, Selectman

Gary Allard, Selectman