

Waterford Annual Town Meeting Minutes
Waterford School Gym
March 1, 2016

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 1, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Maurice Chaloux opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. and the assembly joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Ninety-nine (99) voters were present during the course of the meeting.

The Moderator asked the assembly if there were any objections to allowing Rep. Marcia Martel and St Johnsbury Rep. Scott Beck to speak. There were no objections. Rep. Marcia Martel thanked her constituents and spoke about some of the issues before the legislature this session. There will be fee increases on licenses and permits that will hopefully increase revenues by \$28,000,000. Water quality and cleanup, the St Johnsbury work camp, the marijuana bill and a statewide licenses restoration day are awaiting actions. Rep Scott Beck spoke about the education committee and Act 46 hoping to consolidate supervisory union districts to reduce costs for taxpayers. He also expressed views on the closure of the St Johnsbury work camp. If it is closed he hopes that it is used for the parole office for St Johnsbury to move it out of the center of town.

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

Bernard Willey nominated Maurice Chaloux. There were no further nominations. The Moderator declared the nominations closed. A unanimous voice vote in the affirmative elected Maurice Chaloux as Moderator for the ensuing year.

The Moderator stated that the meeting would be using Roberts Rules of order and asked the assembly to listen and vote without being rude.

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

David Morrison made the motion to authorize the Selectmen to borrow money to defray expenses until taxes are collected. Bernard Willey seconded the motion. There was no discussion. An affirmative voice vote adopted the motion and authorized the Selectmen to borrow money to defray expenses until taxes are collected.

Article 3: To elect the following Town Officers:

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

David Morrison nominated Brent Beck as selectman for a term of three years. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared nominations closed. David Morrison made the motion to have the town clerk cast one ballot for Brent Beck for selectman. Howard Remick seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote passed the motion. The town clerk cast one ballot for Brent Beck for selectman for three years.

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

Ed Allen nominated Howard Remick as Lister for a term of three years. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared nominations closed. David Morrison made the motion to have the town clerk cast one ballot for Howard Remick for lister. Barb Connelly seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote passed the motion. The town clerk cast one ballot for Howard Remick for lister for three years.

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

Mary Jo Lote nominated Dorothy Borsodi as Auditor for a term of three years. There were no further nominations. The Moderator declared nominations closed. David Morrison made the motion to have the town clerk cast one ballot for Dorothy Borsodi for Auditor. Ed Allen seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote passed the motion. The town clerk cast one ballot for Dorothy Borsodi for Auditor for three years.

A Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a term of one year.

Howard Remick nominated Gib Trenholme for Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a term of one year. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed. A voice vote in the affirmative elected Gib Trenholme as Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a term of one year.

A First Constable for a term of one year.

Gib Trenholme nominated David Coburn for First Constable for a term of one year. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed. A voice vote in the affirmative elected David Coburn as First Constable for a term of one year.

A Second Constable for a term of one year.

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

A Town Grand Juror for a term of one year.

Gib Trenholme nominated David Coburn for Town Grand Juror for a term of one year. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed. A voice vote in the affirmative elected David Coburn as Town Grand Juror for a term of one year

A Town Agent to Prosecute and Defend suits on which the Town and Town School District are interested, for a term of one year.

Howard Remick nominated Gerard Jones for a Town Agent to Prosecute and Defend suits on which the Town and Town School District are interested, for a term of one year. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed. A voice vote in the affirmative elected Gerard Jones as Town Agent to Prosecute and Defend suits on which the Town and Town School District are interested, for a term of one year.

A Library Trustee for a term of three years.

Jen D'Agostino nominated Nancy Cyr for Library Trustee for a term of three years. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed. A voice vote in the affirmative elected Nancy Cyr as Library Trustee for a term of three years.

A Library Trustee for a term of three years.

Jen D'Agostino nominated Hannah Fenoff for Library Trustee for a term three years. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed. A voice vote in the affirmative elected Hannah Fenoff as Library Trustee for a term of three years.

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

David Morrison nominated Rosemary Gingue as an Agent to Convey Real Estate owned by the Town and Town School District for a term of one year. There were no further nominations. The moderator declared the nominations closed. A voice vote in the affirmative elected Rosemary Gingue as an Agent to convey Real Estate owned by the Town and Town School Distirict 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, 2016 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, 2016 with an 8% collector's fee to be added thereafter. David Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote in the affirmative passed the motion and Article 4 is 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. Mike Keach seconded the motion. There was no discussion. An affirmative voice vote passed the motion and Article 5 is adopted.

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

David Morrison made the motion to apply any surplus from the current fiscal year general fund to reduce taxes in the next fiscal year. Jim O'Malley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. An affirmative voice vote passed the motion and Article 6 is adopted.

Article 7: Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$12,000 to the Davies Memorial Library for the maintenance and operation of the library?

Rosemary Gingue made the motion to appropriate \$12000 to the Davies Memorial Library for the maintenance and operation of the library. Colleen Kozlowski seconded the motion. There was no discussion. An affirmative voice vote appropriated \$12,000.00 to the Davies Memorial Library.

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

Danny Lane made the motion to appropriate \$400.00 to Rural Community Transportation. Cindy Davis seconded the motion. There was no discussion. An affirmative voice vote appropriated \$400.00 to Rural Community Transportation.

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

Colleen Kozlowski made the motion to appropriate \$500.00 to Catamount Arts. Kathy Bales seconded the motion. There was no discussion. An 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?

Jim O'Malley made the motion to appropriate \$1000 to Umbrella, Inc. Beth Kannel seconded the motion. There was no discussion. An 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?

Barb Connelly made the motion to appropriate \$1250 to Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice to be used in providing health care services. Sharon MacMahan seconded the motion. There was no discussion. An 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?

Howard Remick made the motion to appropriate \$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. David Morrison seconded the motion. There was no discussion. An affirmative voice vote appropriated \$1104.00 to Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium.

Article 13: Shall the Town appropriate \$12,800.00 to the Caledonia-Essex Area Ambulance Service, Inc (CALEX) for the ensuing year?

Pamela Bullock made the motion to appropriate \$12,800 to Caledonia-Essex Area Ambulance Service, Inc (CALEX) for the ensuing year. Mike Keach seconded the motion. There was no discussion. An affirmative voice vote appropriated \$12,800.00 to CALEX.

Article 14: 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?

MaryEm Saar made the motion to appropriate \$500.00 to assist the NEK Council on Aging in providing services to senior citizens in the ensuing year. Barb Connelly seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote in the affirmative appropriated \$500.00 to NEK Council on Aging.

Article 15: 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 NEK Youth Services. Colleen Kozlowski seconded the motion. There was no discussion. An affirmative voice vote appropriated \$750.00 to NEK Youth Services.

Article 16: 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?

Howard Remick made the motion to appropriate \$1159.00 for the support of NEK Human Services, Inc. Kate Piper seconded the motion. There was no discussion. An affirmative voice vote appropriated \$1159.00 for the support of NEK Human Services, Inc.

Article 17: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$200.00 to the Northeast Kingdom Adult Education and Literacy Program?

Jim O'Malley made the motion to appropriate \$200.00 to NEK Adult Education and Literacy Program. Barb Connelly seconded the motion. There was no discussion. An affirmative voice vote appropriated \$200.00 to the NEK Adult Education and Literacy Program.

Article 18: 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.

MaryEm Saar made the motion to appropriate \$500.00 to Kingdom Animal Shelter to assist in maintaining services for the animals in their care. Carolyn Fleming seconded the motion. There was no discussion. An affirmative voice vote appropriated \$500.00 to Kingdom Animal Shelter.

Article 19: To suggest members to the Development Review Board for four years.

There were no members suggested to the Development Review Board.

Article 20: To suggest members to the Planning Board for three years.

Howard Remick and Bill Dimick were suggested to the Planning Board.

Article 21: To hear reports of Town Boards, Commissions and Committees.

Fire Chief Kevin Fontecha reported that the department celebrated their 30th Anniversary.

Heather Burt, Waste District Representative, reported that the superintendents have come up with a plan for recycling. It will be similar to what we have done in the past but have a different pick up system. We will need some changes in our collection facility. She suggested that we have a committee help to get this underway.

Selectman Brent Beck thanked the assembly for coming out to town meeting. The TransCanada appraisal appeal will be settled using the results of the Barnet court decision. There are 5 solar arrays proposed for Waterford. One on Duck Pond Road will be visible from the road. They are in the permit process with the Public Service Board. The Selectmen are looking for a gravel pit in Waterford to buy gravel in the future because the Gillander pit is about exhausted.

Article 22: Will the Town accept the proposed Town Budget of \$1, 000,362.00 of which \$675,459.00 is to be raised by taxes?

David Morrison made the motion to accept the proposed Town Budget of \$1,000,362.00 of which \$675,459.00 is to be raised by taxes. Jane Vinton seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote in the affirmative passed the motion and approved the Town Budget of \$1,000,362.00 of which \$675,459.00 is to be raised by taxes.

Article 23: Will the Town accept the Town’s portion of the Town Report for the year 2015?

Howard Remick made the motion to accept the Town’s portion of the Town Report for the year 2015. David Morrison seconded the motion. An affirmative voice vote passed the motion and approved Article 23.

Article 24: At what hour next year do the voters of the Town wish to start the annual meeting?

David Morrison made the motion to start next year’s annual meeting at 10:00 a.m. Jim O’Malley seconded the motion. There was no discussion. An affirmative voice vote passed the motion and set the time of next year’s annual meeting at 10:00 a.m.

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

Beth Kannel pointed out the Waterford History Society display, an encouraged everyone to visit their website, bring in historical items, and join the group. They will be having a joint fund raiser with the Lower Waterford Church, “Come Home to Waterford Music” on June 18, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

David Morrison made the motion to adjourn. The annual town meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Maurice Chaloux, Morderator
Date:

Joanne Jurentkuf, Town Clerk
Date:

Brent Beck
Selectman, Chair
Date:

Fred Saar
Selectman

Gary Allard
Selectman