Unapproved

MINUTES AND WARNING OF 2023 TOWN MEETING

The legal voters of the Town of Warren are hereby notified that Vermont now has same day voter registration. Eligible residents will be able to register to vote on any day up to and including Election Day during the hours the polls are open. Legal voters of the Town of Warren may request absentee ballots for Australian ballot at the Town Clerk’s office until Monday March 6, 2023 until 4 PM. Any authorized person may apply for an absentee ballot on behalf of an absentee voter.

The residents of the Town of Warren who are legal voters in the town are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Warren Elementary School in the Town of Warren on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 4:00 PM in the afternoon to act upon the following matters:

Moderator, Doug Bergstein, called the meeting to order and released the floor to Vermont State Representative Kari Dolan. Ms. Dolan gave an overview of the current activities in the legislature.

Mr. Bergstein read the Town Report dedication to Laurie Jones. Laurie was the Warren Elementary School secretary and administrative assistant for 27 years as well as dedicating her time to many other community boards.

**Article 1. Shall the Town vote a budget of $4,128,677.00 to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town including the capital expenditures and to authorize the Select Board to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same?**

Motion was made and seconded to move article 1. Robert Ackland of the Warren Selectboard moved to amend the budget amount to $4,151,587.00. He stated that $500 for Bear Awareness and $600 for Public Meetings should be added to the Conservation Commission budget. The Photocopy budget shows a net amount of -$500 and the correct amount should be $3000. There was also a formula error in the Delinquent Tax collection interest. Motion to approve Article 1 as amended was made and seconded. Approved by a voice vote in the affirmative.

**Article 2. Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to borrow money to pay current expenses and debts of the Town in anticipation of the collection of taxes for that purpose?**

Motion was made and seconded to approve Article 2 as printed. Approved by a voice vote in the affirmative.

**Article 3. Shall the Town vote its current taxes into the hands of the Town Treasurer?**

Motion was made and seconded to approve Article 3 as printed. Approved by a voice vote in the affirmative.

**Article 4. Shall the Town have its taxes of real and personal property billed July 15, taxes due August 15, delinquent after November 15, with no discount?**

Motion was made and seconded to approve Article 4 as printed. Approved by a voice vote in the affirmative.

**Article 5. Shall the Town vote its Green Mountain National Forest money go to the Warren PTO?**

Motion was made and seconded to approve Article 5 as printed. Approved by a voice vote in the affirmative.

**Article 6. Shall the Town empower the Select Board to accept any land if given to the Town or to purchase any land within the Town?**

Motion was made and seconded to approve Article 6 as printed. Approved by a voice vote in the affirmative.

**Article 7. Shall the Town vote to allocate $30,000 to the Conservation Reserve Fund for the year 2023 to be used for land conservation projects as stated in the Town of Warren Conservation Commission and Reserve Fund Charter dated 24, April 2007?**

Jito Coleman, Conservation Commission member, gave overview of money spent in 2022. Motion was made and seconded to approve Article 7 as printed. Approved by a voice vote in the affirmative.

**Article 8. To set the date, time and place of 2024 Town Meeting?**

Andrew Cunningham of the Warren Selectboard moved that 2024 Town Meeting be held at the Warren Town Hall/Library at 3 PM on the first Tuesday in March 2024. Discussion of the pros and cons of holding meeting earlier or later in the day and the Australian Ballot voting were discussed. At the end of discussion Chris Behn moved to amend motion to 4 PM, more discussion ensued, Mr. Behn then changed his amendment to 5 PM. Motion was made and seconded to amend Mr. Cunningham’s motion to 5 PM and the meeting is to be held at the Warren Elementary School. The 2024 Warren Town Meeting will be held at the Warren Elementary School, on the first Tuesday of March at 5 PM in the afternoon. Approved by a voice vote in the affirmative.

**Article 9. The following items will be voted on by Australian ballot between the hours of 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM, Tuesday March 7, 2023.**

 **The Election of all Town officers required by law.**

Because there were no contested races on the ballot and no one received enough write in voted to be declared elected. The Warren Board of Civil Authority declared all candidate appearing on the 2023 ballot to be duly elected.

Doug Bergstein Moderator 1 Year, Luke Youmell Select Board 2 Year Term, Devin Klein Corrigan Select Board 3 Year Term, Camilla Behn Cemetery Commissioner 3 Year Term, Patricia Begin Lister 3 Year Term, Dayna Lisaius Town Treasurer 3 Year Term, David Ellison Library Commission 3 Year Term, Karen Cingiser Library Commission 3 Year Term, Dayna Lisaius Trustee of Public Money 3 Year Term.

**Article 10. To transact any other business that may come before the meeting.**

Robert Ackland presented slides detailing preliminary work done, and site planning for, a new town garage on its current site. Discussed were the history of this process and other locations investigated. Alternative properties were considered in an effort to free up the current site for affordable housing.

Motion to adjourn made and seconded. So moved by a voice vote. 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted.

Reta K Goss

Warren Town Clerk