

UNAPPROVED

TOWN MEETING INFORMATIONAL MEETING

March 1, 2023

Cindy Jerome, Town Moderator called this meeting to order at 7:00 pm via Zoom in Dummerston, VT.

Members present: Zeke Goodband, Maria Glabach, Terry Chapman, David Baxendale

Also present: Cindy Jerome; Town Moderator, Roger Jasaitis; Zoning Administrator, Laurie Frechette; Town Clerk, Charlotte Neer-Annis; Town Treasurer, Catie Berg; Dummerston Cares, Nadar Hashim; State Senator, Mark Kracum, Alex Wilson, Austin Rice; BCTV and 36 Town Residents.

Cindy reviewed the in person voting on March 7th.

Cindy reviewed the procedures of the informational meeting and zoom instructions.

Candidates for the two-year Selectboard seat introduced themselves, briefly spoke and answered questions.

Candidates for the WSESD School Director seat introduced themselves, briefly spoke and answered questions.

Nader Hashim, VT Senator gave an update of what's happening at the State level.

Article 2 – Cindy presented, Auditors Report, no questions

Article 3 – Cindy presented, Appoint receiver of delinquent taxes, no questions

Article 4 – Maria presented, Capital Fund, no questions

Article 5 – Rick Looman presented, Fire truck purchase to replace 1999 Engine 3, no questions

Article 6 – Zeke presented, General Fund Budget

Paul Normandeau questioned the 8 ½ % increase

Article 7 – Zeke presented, Highway Fund Budget

Jody Normandeau asked if the Town had any say with the State regarding the paving on Route 5. Zeke responded that it was a temporary fix and the State intended to repave when the weather permitted.

Catie Berg was concerned about the cost of diesel fuel and was wondering if electric vehicles were an option. Zeke responded that technology was not there yet.

Article 8 – Maria presented, Highway Structures Fund. The Board would like to increase the fund balance to plan ahead for future natural disasters.

Paul Normandeau commented that borrowing money would be cheaper than building up the fund.

Article 9 – Terry presented, Highway Blasting & Crushing Fund, no questions.

Article 10 – David presented, Evening Star Grange tax exemption, no questions.

Article 11 – David presented, Green Mountain Camp tax exemption, no questions.

Article 12 – David presented, Fire Department tax exemption, no questions.

Advisory Non-Binding Resolution - Dummerston Cares, Catie Berg presented, public comments.

Jody Normandeau thanked the Selectboard on behalf of the Historical Society for ARPA funding to do needed upgrades and fixes.

Cindy Jerome suggested having an ARPA recap in the next Views. Terry will be writing the next article.

Cliff Adler commented regarding not having an in person Town Meeting. Zeke spoke to the feedback the Selectboard received. More people can way in by Australian ballot.

Alex Wilson reminded everyone of the retirement party for Jean Newell at the Town Office on 3/2.

Michelle Luetjen-Green – Reminder that the School District will hold a public hearing on 3/14 and in person voting on 3/21.

The Informational Meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Approved

Zeke Goodband, Chair

Terry Chapman, Vice Chair

Submitted by Maria Glabach, Clerk