

Warning for Annual Town and Town School District Meeting

The legal voters of the Town of Greensboro are hereby warned and notified to meet at Fellowship Hall in said Town, Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 10 a.m. to transact the following business:

Article 1: To elect a Moderator to govern said town for the coming year.

Tim Nisbet nominated by Valdine Hall - Second Karl Stein - Mike Metcalf moved the clerk cast one ballot for Tim Nisbet

Article 2: To elect a Town Clerk for a three-year term

Kim Greaves nominated by Bridget Collier - second by Rosanne Cook - Karl Stein moved the clerk cast one ballot for Kim Greaves.

At this time, the meeting was turned over to Susan Wood, Chair of the Selectboard, who presented retiring Clerk, Valdine Hall with a beautiful plate made by local artisan, Devin Burgess, Borealis Studios, and a certification of appreciation.

Susan than presented the The Annual Greensboro Award to Janet Long - Janet was presented with a beautiful clock with her name and year engraved on the front.

Article 3: To take action on the Town of Greensboro Annual printed report.

So moved by Bridget Collier - Second by Mike Metcalf. Discussion:

Linda Romans has not resigned from the DRB

Kristen Leahy needs to be added to the Recreation Committee

Article 6 was amended to strike "elect school district officers" as they are elected in the school portion of the meeting

Article 3 - was approved with the above corrections

Our State Representative, Vicky Strong, was in the audience, and was granted permission to speak to the audience - Mrs. Strong explained that she and Representative Sam Young decided to divide the towns they visit this year, so that they would be allowed more time in each town.

This is Representative Strong's 7th year in the Legislature - this year she has moved to Housing and Military affairs - she sees a gap in housing for veterans and people with mental illness.

She is actively working on Act 46 as she is a firm believer of school choice - in this bill The funds follow the student

With our new Governor, they are still in the getting acquainted stage, and are working on technical bills, updating language.

Judy Carpenter mentioned Act 46, and its impact on small schools - putting pressure on schools to consolidate - most NEK Representatives are not happy with Act 46 and would like to see it repealed. It doesn't work in small towns - this bill is more appropriate the larger cities

*Penny Bretschneider mentioned Governor Scott's plan to level fund schools - David Kelley feels the Superintendent offices need to consolidate, not the small schools
Chrissie Ohlogrog would like to see more done for the mentally ill.*

Article 4: Shall the voters authorize the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District to appropriate and expend a budget of \$ 755,527.00 (Australian Ballot)

Article 4 passed - votes cast 113 Yes 104 No 9

Article 5: Shall the voters of the Town of Greensboro authorize property tax exemption for the “Ballfield” property identified as parcel ID 005-0002 for a three-year (3) period. This will eliminate the municipal property tax due. However, the amount due for education taxes will still need to be raised and will be included in our Local Agreement Rate.

So moved by Mike Metcalf, Second by Janet Long -

Article 5 - passed on a voice vote.

Article 6: To elect town officers and school district officers required by law and one or more library trustees:

Office	Ter	Nominated By	Vote	Elected
Select Board	3 yrs	Mark Snyder	Lorelei Wheeler moved the Nominations end and the Clerk Cast one Ballot - 2nd Karl Stein	Peter Romans
Select Board	2 yrs	Lee Wright	Bridget Collier moved the Nominations end and the Clerk Cast one Ballot - 2nd Mike Cassidy	Sean Thomson
Select Board	2 yrs	Mike Metcalf	Bridget Collier moved the Nominations end and the Clerk Cast one Ballot - 2nd Kim	Mike Lapierre (to complete 3 year term)
Treasurer	3 yrs	Barbara Brooke nominated by Erika Karp Laura Fontaine nominated Denise Stuart	Total votes cast 121 - number needed to win 62 - Barbara Brooke -45 Denise Stuart - 76	Denise Stuart
Trustee of Public Funds	3 yrs	Judy Carpenter	Mike Metcalf moved the Nominations end and the Clerk Cast one Ballot - 2nd Kim Greaves	Barbara Brooke
Cemetery Commissioner	3 yrs	Wayne Young	Bridget Collier moved the Nominations end and the Clerk Cast one Ballot - 2nd Mike Metcalf	MacNeil

Office	Ter	Nominated By	Vote	Elected
First Constable	1 yr	Bridget Collier	Bridget Collier moved the Nominations end and the Clerk Cast one Ballot - 2nd Mike Metcalf	Rick Walsh
Second Constable	1 yr	Patricia Mercier	Bridget Collier moved the Nominations end and the Clerk Cast one Ballot - 2nd Mike Metcalf	Mark Snyder
Library Trustee	3 yrs	Janet Travers	As we had 3 positions and 3 people running, we elected the slate on a voice vote	Becky Arnold
Library Trustee	3 yrs	Brianne Castle	Slate elected on voice vote	Virginia Lapierre
Library Trustee (to complete)	1 yr	Mike Metcalf	Slate elected on voice vote	Ken Johnson (to complete one year term)
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	1 yr	Judy Dales	Bridget Collier moved the Nominations end and the Clerk Cast one Ballot - 2nd Mike Metcalf	Janet Long
Town Agent	1 yr	Janet Long	Mike Metcalf moved the Nominations end and the Clerk Cast one Ballot - 2nd Karl Stein	David Smith
Town Grand Juror	1 yr	Mike Cassidy	Mike Metcalf moved the Nominations end and the Clerk Cast one Ballot - 2nd Bridget Collier	David Smith

Article 7: Shall the voters of the Town Greensboro appropriate the following sums to the outside agencies listed below?

Outside Agency	Amount
AWARE	2,000
Beach (moved to General Fund Budget)	0
Caledonia Home Health	1,400

Outside Agency	Amount
Clarina Howard Nichols Center	200
Craftsbury Community Care Center	10,000
Four Season's of Early Learning	9,500
Green Up	50
Greensboro Nursing Home	20,013
Hardwick Area Community Coalition	500
Hardwick Area Food Shelf	2,000
Discussion - Jane Little made the motion that we increase this by \$500.	2500
Second by Patty Launer	
Hardwick Area Restorative Justice	1,500
Lamoille Family	500
NEK Council on Aging (Area on Aging)	1000
Northeast Kingdom Human Services	800
NEK Learning Services	250
North Country Animal League	600
NVDA	572
Orleans County Historical Society	525
Orleans County Citizens Advocacy	800
Orleans County Court Diversion	100
Red Cross	250
Rescue squad	7,756.35
Rural Community Transportation	900
VT Center for Independent Living	210
Total	\$ 61,426.35
Amended to	61,926.35

Article 7 - was moved by Bridget Collier - Naomi Ranz-Schliefer asked why Wonder and Wisdom was included in Town properties and not here. Clerk made note to move Wonder and Wisdom to outside agencies for next year.

Article 7 passed on a voice vote as amended - increased Hardwick Food Pantry appropriation to \$2,500 - making total appropriations to outside agencies \$61,926.35.

Article 8: Shall the voters of the Town of Greensboro approve the following Special Appropriation requests from the Municipal Properties listed below?

Greensboro Conservation	\$ 2,000
Greensboro Free Library	\$25,000
Greensboro Grange Bldg	\$ 1,500
Greensboro Historical Society	\$ 1,500
Wonder & Wisdom Programs	\$ 3,500

Total	\$33,500
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Article 8 - so moved by Bridget Collier - discussion on Article 8 - Mark Snyder asked to speak on the Greensboro Grange Building - he feels it needs a lot of work and that we have put a lot of money into this building without a plan and we shouldn't put any more in until we know what we are going to do with it. He stated that it seems foolish to put another penny into this building until we know what we are going to do with it.

Bridget Collier made a motion that we increase the amount for the GGB to \$2,0000, this was seconded by Valdine Hall.

Ann Harbison wondered if a cost estimate had been made - Stephanie Herrick mentioned that she was on the original committee and yes, we had worked up a budget for repairs. - Question on location of building - it sits in a swamp - Lucy Keefe wondered if the building should be moved - Peter Romans felt we the GGB committee had never had a "professional" cost estimate done. Mark mentioned lead paint - every old building in town has or had lead paint - Mark feels we should put our money into the current Town Hall Building, why divide our resources - Penny Bretschneider suggested the GGB could serve as a Welcome Center - the audience seemed to like that idea - Valdine Hall reminded everyone that the building does have significant history - it was the original Town Hall and that the GGB committee had obtained a grant from Vermont Preservation Trust to help with restoration of the building - Chrissie Ohlrogge wanted to know why we needed town funds if we had grant money - Valdine said it was to show the VPT that the town supported the project by contributing to its restoration cost.

Mark Snyder made a motion that we strike the \$1500 from the budget, Moderator Tim Nisbet pointed out that this was out of order - we had a motion on the floor to increase the amount from \$1500 to \$2000.

Karl Stein made a motion to call the question - 7 or more people did not want a paper ballot - The motion to increase from \$1500 to \$2000 did not pass.

Mark Snyder made the motion that we strike the \$1,500 for the GGB from the budget, 2nd by Janet Long - motion was turned down on a voice vote.

Article 8 passed as presented

Article 9: Shall the voters approve the proposed budget in the amount of **\$ 1,801,107.00** which contains the necessary amount required by law and proposed expenses for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2017? (This budget amount includes the outside and local appropriations requests).

THE BUDGET AMOUNT WAS AMENDED TO \$1,801,607.00

So moved by Kim Greaves, 2nd by Fern Fontaine,

Mark Snyder wanted to talk about town salaries - wants all salaries and benefits posted in town report as line items.

Susan Wood, chair of the board suggest that Mark attend a Selectboard meeting to discuss this.

Naomi Ranz Schelifer wanted to know why there was an increase in the Assessor Assistant position - Valdine Hall explained, that we hope to train the assistant to do more of the work for the Assessor, transfers, data entry, appointment scheduling, etc as in the long run that will save the town money.

Bridget made the motion to accept the budget as amended - 2nd by Lorelei Wheeler.

Article 9 - passed on a voice vote

Article 10: Shall the voters of the Town of Greensboro approve having the Town Treasurer serve as collector of current taxes and set the tax due date of November 2, 2017. Taxes will be delinquent if not received in the office of the Town Treasurer by Thursday, November 2, 2017, by 4:00 p.m.

So moved by Janet Long, 2nd by Karl Stein - discussion, why does due date keep changing - trying to have our due date after the last day we received homestead payments from the state - Valdine mentioned that next year taxpayers will be able to pay property taxes as well as other fees with credit or debit cards - there is a fee for this which will be assessed to the individual using the service.

Article 11: For discussion purpose only - Should the day and time of Town Meeting be changed?

Susan Wood explained that the request was made by a taxpayer - comments from the audience - Penny Bretschneider felt more young people might attend and express their opinions if we moved the date and or time.

Valdine Hall stated, that young people can attend Selectboard meetings at any time to express their opinions -

Tim Nisbet would like to see Town Meeting start at 9 AM

Bridget Collier suggested going to Australian Ballot for offices

Straw poll, would people prefer an evening meeting or Saturday morning - Saturday morning won straw poll

Some people seemed in favor of moving to Saturday -

Town Meeting is what makes our democracy special - the State should make TM day a state holiday

Jane Little thinks tradition is important

Susan Wood announced that the Selectboard will start holding one Selectboard meeting a quarter at St. Mikes Parish Hall in Greensboro Bend

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

The Town will celebrate the Funky Fourth on July 1st

Karl Stein thanked people for purchasing their 911 numbers - you can order through the Town Clerks office

Wayne came back to break down of salaries and benefits- feels taxpayers are "entitled" to see where the money goes

Tim Nisbet made the announcement that as we ran late with Town Meeting, the School Meeting will start at 1:15

Four Seasons of Early Learning is serving lunch, suggested donation of \$5.00

Karl Stein made a motion to adjourn - 2nd by Bridget Collier

Meeting adjourned at 12:23 PM

Respectfully Submitted:

_____, Town Clerk
Valdine Hall

_____, Moderator
Tim Nisbet

_____, Selectboard
Judy Carpenter

