

TOWN OF MARLBORO, VERMONT
~ MINUTES ~
SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING - MARCH 7, 2017

Moderator Steven John called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM and read out the warning:

The legal voters of the Town School District of Marlboro, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet in the Town House of said Marlboro on Tuesday, March 7, 2017, at 9:10 AM to consider and act upon the following Articles:

Article 1: To elect a Moderator for a one year term.

Steven John nominated by David Holzapfel and seconded by Clarence Boston.

So moved by Lucy Gratwick and seconded by Susan Kundhart that the nominations be closed, and that the Clerk cast a single ballot.

So voted by unanimous voice vote.

Steven John elected Moderator for a one-year term.

**Article 2: To elect : One (1) School Director for a three-year term ending 2020.
Two (2) School Directors for one-year terms ending 2018.**

Steven John noted the polls will be open on Tuesday, March 7th, 2017 from 10:00 am until 7:00 pm in the Marlboro Town Office for the purpose of electing the above School Director positions by Australian Ballot.

Discussion: question about the procedure of the ballot and who is being elected.

Article 3: To compensate the Directors of the Marlboro School District \$500 each.

So moved by Gail MacArthur and seconded by Sharon Tappan.

No discussion followed.

So voted by unanimous voice vote.

Compensation for School Board members set at \$500/year each.

The School Directors Douglas Korb (Chair), Celena Romo (Vice Chair), Carol Ann Johnson, Dan MacArthur, & Lauren Poster take the dais.

Article 4: To see if the voters of the Town School District will authorize the School Directors to borrow in anticipation of revenue.

So moved by T Hunter Wilson and seconded by Andrea Howe.

Discussion: none, except a round of standing applause for the board.

So voted by unanimous voice vote.

School Directors are authorized to borrow in anticipation of revenue.

Article 5: “Shall the voters of the Marlboro School District approve the school board to expend \$2,582,426 which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year.” It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$16,901 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 1% higher than spending for the current year.

So moved by Gail MacArthur and seconded by T Hunter Wilson.

Discussion followed:

- Douglas Korb pointed to line 33 on page 70 of the Town Report, showing the projected tax rate of \$1.67, which is the lowest tax rate in 4 years; on page 60, Douglas explained that the board worked with Bus Coordinator Andrea Howe to purchase a new school bus; the new wood boiler is also a significant line item which will move the school over from the antiquated oil boiler to a new wood pellet boiler; he also reported that high school student numbers are up this year.
- Judy Robinson of South Road, wanted to know about the 55% decrease in the Sp Ed budget; Celena Romo explained it is a result of a difference in the way the supervisory union details such costs; Andrew Richardson of South Road, had questions regarding the new boiler costs, which Dan MacArthur explained, along with mention of Windham Wood Heat Initiative grant and assistance; Kate Morgan of Cowpath 40 wanted to know why there were changes in the high school budget, and Lauren Poster and Douglas Korb explained the demographic changes; a wood pellet boiler question came from Edie Thomas of Ames Hill Rd, and Dan MacArthur explained the boiler has a self-feeding auger and \$800 has been budgeted for maintenance; Liz Vick of Stark Rd wanted to know if the number of students is more or less than last year and Celena Romo said it appears to be staying between 78 - 84 students at Marlboro School; Lauren MacArthur of MacArthur Road wanted to know about the \$0 in the budget for assistants, with the board responding that in the new school year, there will be special ed paraprofessionals but not general assistants to the teachers; a standing ovation for Marlboro School Principal Francie Marbury of Lower Dover Road who will retire at the end of this year and for Wayne Kermenski of Indian Pipe Road who has been hired as the new principal for the coming school year.

Discussion ended.

So voted by unanimous voice vote.

The voters of the Marlboro School District approved the school board to expend \$2,582,426 for the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 6: To see if the voters of the Town School District will authorize the School Directors to spend any grants or other funds received by the District for school purposes.

So moved by Brent Seabrook and seconded by Jonathan Morse.

So voted by unanimous voice vote.

School Directors are authorized to spend any grants or other funds received by the District for school purposes.

Article 7: To transact any other legal business that may come before the Meeting.

Discussion of Special School District Meeting

Motion made by Clarence Boston & seconded by T Hunter Wilson to adjourn the School District Annual Meeting.

So voted by unanimous voice vote.

School Meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.