

**Town of Westmore, VT  
Annual Town Meeting Minutes  
March 6, 2018**

The legal voters of the Town of Westmore met at the Fellowship Hall in said town on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 at 10:00am to transact the following business:

Melissa Zebrowski called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

The citizens of the town stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Maree Bushey nominated Andy Berley, seconded by Bruce Tanner.

There being no other nominations, Andy Berley was elected Moderator by a voice vote.

Sherriff's Deputy Bingham addressed those in attendance and asked if there were any questions. Andy asked if the South Beach has been a law enforcement issue. Sheriff Bingham stated they had no complaints last year, but that doesn't mean it isn't an issue because people may not complain.

Bill spoke about the opinion poll. The Selectboard is looking for feedback from the townspeople on three different questions. The opinion poll is for Westmore residents and taxpayers.

Andy mentioned the following corrections in the annual town report:

- \* Article 3:D – to elect a Lister to finish the remaining 1 yr of a 3 yr term
- \* Original warning had Article 3:I – to elect a Cemetery Commissioner for the term of 3 years.
- \* JP's expiration dates are 2019, not 2018.
- \* Article 10 – the amount should be \$366,019.33
- \* Article 14 – the year should be 2018
- \* Article 23 – the amount should be \$1385.84

Paul Lefebvre our district Representative spoke about some bills being worked on. The biggest one is education funding. Paul explained some of the changes being proposed and how this could impact Westmore. Another bill proposed is the "Lake in Crisis Bill." This bill is to address the water quality phosphate issues throughout the state.

Andy asked for a moment of silence for those in the community that passed away in the last year: John Badger Sr. and Catherine Inman.

**Article 2. Shall the Town vote to accept the Town report as printed?**

Andy explained that Missy called VLCT about this article and that this article really doesn't need to be in here and won't be next year. The article really doesn't do anything. Faye Perkins motioned to pass over this article, seconded by Ron Holmes. Passed.

**Article 3. Election of the following officials:**

- A. To elect a Current Year Tax Collector for the term of 1 year  
Ron H. nominated Melissa, Faye P seconded. There being no further nominations, the Moderator asked to cease nominations  
and the Assistant Clerk cast one ballot for Melissa Zebrowski.
- B. To elect a Selectman to finish the remaining 2 years of a 3 year term  
Kathy H nominated Peter Hyslop, Ron H seconded. There being no further nominations,

**Town of Westmore, VT  
Annual Town Meeting Minutes  
March 6, 2018**

- the Moderator asked to cease nominations and the Clerk cast one ballot for Peter Hyslop.
- C. To elect a Selectman for the term of 3 years.  
Faye P. nominated David Stevens, Ron H. seconded. There being no further nominations, the Moderator asked to cease nominations and the Clerk cast one ballot for David Stevens.
  - D. To elect a Lister to finish the remaining 1 year of a 3 year term.  
Maree B. nominated Greg Gallagher, Ron seconded. There being no further nominations, the Moderator asked to cease nominations and the Clerk cast one ballot for Greg Gallagher.
  - E. To elect a Lister for the term of 3 years  
Linda M. nominated Maree Bushey,  
Kathe Carr Townsend nominated Erik Townsend  
Maree Bushey withdrew her nomination  
There being no further nominations, the Moderator asked to cease nominations and the Clerk cast one ballot for Erik Townsend.
  - F. To elect a Delinquent Tax Collector for the term of 1 year  
Ron H. nominated Annette Parenteau, seconded by Faye P. There being no further nominations, the Moderator asked to cease nominations and the Clerk cast one ballot for Annette Parenteau.
  - G. To elect a Town Agent for the term of 1 year  
Kathy H. nominated Melissa Zebrowski, seconded by Ron H. There being no further nominations, the Moderator asked to cease nominations and the Clerk cast one ballot for Melissa Zebrowski.
  - H. To elect a Grand Juror for the term of 1 year  
Maree nominated Chris Evans, seconded by Ron H. There being no further nominations, the Moderator asked to cease nominations and the Clerk cast one ballot for Chris Evans.
  - I. To elect a Cemetery Commissioner for the term of 3 years  
Bill nominated Steve Davenport, seconded by Ron H. There being no further nominations, the Moderator asked to cease nominations and the Clerk cast one ballot for Steve Davenport.

**Article 4. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Current Year Tax Collector to collect current year property taxes due on or before October 20, 2018 at 4:00pm?**

Linda M so moved, seconded by Faye P. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

**Article 5. Shall the Town vote to set the delinquent tax date for property taxes on Saturday October 20, 2018 at 4:01pm, with an 8% collector's fee charged and subject to interest charged against them from the due date?**

Ron Hso moved, seconded by Peter B. Passed on a voice vote.

**Article 6. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to set the Municipal Tax Rate after the Grand List has been completed?**

Ron H so moved, seconded by Linda M. Passed on a voice vote.

**Town of Westmore, VT  
Annual Town Meeting Minutes  
March 6, 2018**

**Article 7. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to use a portion of unspent general fund surpluses, as needed, to help offset the 2018 Municipal Tax Rate?**

Ron H so moved, seconded by Peter B. Passed on a voice vote.

**Article 8. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to use a portion of unspent general fund surpluses, as needed, to cover any deficit amounts?**

Linda M so moved, seconded by Ron H. Passed on a voice vote.

**Article 9. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow, if needed, for current expenses?**

Ron H so moved, seconded by Faye P. Passed on a voice vote.

**Article 10. Shall the Town vote to accept the proposed 2018 budget of \$366,019.33 for General Fund?**

Linda M so moved, seconded by Peter B. Passed on a voice vote.

**Article 14. Shall the Town vote to accept the proposed 2018 budget of \$250,649.15 for the Highway**

Ron H. so moved, seconded by Kathy H. Passed on a voice vote.

**Article 15. Shall the Town vote to add \$25,000 to the Milfoil Program Fund?**

Bruce Tanner explained the Milfoil program including the boat greeter program along with our yearly milfoil report.

The Article passed on a voice vote.

**Article 16. Shall the Town vote to add \$75,000 to the Paving Reserve Fund?**

Clayton explained the various paving projects going on and the different areas that are having problems that need to be addressed.

Linda M so moved, seconded by Ron H. Passed on a voice vote.

**Article 17. Shall the Town vote to add \$17,500 to the Gravel/Sand Reserve Fund?**

Clayton explained the Mary Theotokos church pit lease.

Ron H so moved, seconded by Faye P. Passed on a voice vote.

**Article 18. Shall the Town vote to add \$10,000 to the Capital Improvements Reserve Fund?**

Bill explained what this fund is used for and that each year they like to put money in this fund to build up a reserve so we don't have to raise a lot in taxes in one year for a project. Future projects for the very near future are the garage roof and the painting of the municipal building.

Ron H so moved, seconded by Faye P. Passed on a voice vote.

**Article 19. Shall the Town vote to add \$76,502.03 to the Town Equipment Reserve Fund?**

**Town of Westmore, VT  
Annual Town Meeting Minutes  
March 6, 2018**

Judy asked what this money is used for. Burton explained it is used for future town equipment purchases and that it is not just meant for highway, but to also pay the yearly payments on the equipment we have loans on.

Ron H so moved, seconded by Faye P. Passed on a voice vote.

**Article 20. Shall the Town vote to add \$1500 to the Lister Reappraisal & Map Reserve Fund**

Peter B so moved, seconded by Ron H. Passed on a voice vote.

**Article 21. Shall the Town vote to add \$6000 to the Cemetery Reserve Fund?**

Miriam and Bill explained there are plans to have stones cleaned and repaired this year.

Peter B so moved, seconded by Ron H. Passed on a voice vote.

**Article 22. Shall the Town vote to add \$550 to the Deed/Vault Reserve Fund?**

Ron H so moved, seconded by Faye P. Passed on a voice vote.

**Article 23. Shall the Town vote to move \$1,385.84 from the General Fund balance to the Highway Fund to cover the Highway deficit?**

Ron H. so moved, seconded by Peter B. Passed on a voice vote.

**Article 24. Shall the Town vote to move \$17,305.55 from the General Fund balance to the Gravel/Sand Reserve Fund to cover the gravel deficit?**

Ron H so moved, seconded by Anne Tanner. Passed on a voice vote.

**Article 25. Shall the Town vote to move \$25,000 to the Paving Reserve Fund from the General Fund balance, thus reducing the tax expense this year?**

Linda M so moved, seconded by Ron H. Passed on a voice vote.

**Article 26. Shall the Town vote to accept the proposed amount of \$36,198.00 for Community Appropriations as follows?**

a.	WestmoreFireman's Association	\$ 25,000
b.	OC Court Diversion	300
c.	VT Ctr for Independent Living	80
d.	VT Rural Fire Protection	100
e.	Green Up	50
f.	Rural Comm Transportation	350
g.	OC Citizen Advocacy	600
h.	NEK Learning Services	500
i.	NEK Human Services	368
j.	O-E VNA & Hospice	900
k.	Pope Mem Frontier Animal Shelter	500
l.	Old Stonehouse Museum	500
m.	BASSI	750
n.	Umbrella	250
o.	Jones Memorial Library	2,000
p.	NEK Council on Aging	400
q.	Lake Region Senior Ctr	500
r.	Barton Library	2,000
s.	American Red Cross	250
t.	NorthWoods Stewardship	750

**Town of Westmore, VT  
Annual Town Meeting Minutes  
March 6, 2018**

Peter B. so moved seconded by Anne Turner in the amount of \$36,198  
Pam Kennedy offered her support to the Old Stone House and requested to increase their appropriation by another \$200.  
As a board member of NEK Learning Services, Andy Berley offered his support and requested to increase the appropriation another \$500.  
Ron H moved and Kathy H seconded to amend the amounts for NEK Learning Services by \$500 and Old Stone House by \$200. The amendment passed on a voice vote.  
Article #26 passed as amended (to \$36,898) on a voice vote.

**Article 27. To do and transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.**

- Beverly Decker expressed missing not seeing Millie or Ruth this year. All agreed and asked SB to craft a letter to send to Ruth & Millie a letter thanking them for their many years of service to the town.
- Kristen asked for a moment of silence to remember Christopher McCarthy who was our Westmore Fire Chief for many years. All gave a moment of silence for Chris.
- Ron H expressed that he doesn't like the trash pickup expense.

**Article 28. To Adjourn.**

Peter B moved and Ann P seconded to adjourn at 12:05. Passed by a voice vote.

**Andy thanked the Westmore Ladies Aid for putting on a delicious lunch.**

Signed by,

Melissa S. Zebrowski  
Westmore Town Clerk

ATTESTED BY:

Andrew Berley, Moderator                      Date      David Stevens, Selectman                      Date

William Perkins, Selectman                      Date      Burton Hinton, Selectman                      Date