TOWN OF GRANVILLE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
March 7, 2023

After an introduction and explanation of Roberts Rules and 5 minutes per person to speak to an article, the meeting was then called to order at 6:15 pm.

1. To elect a Moderator for the year ensuing. Bruce Hyde nominated Roger and Kate Stauss seconded. The moderator called for a voice vote to elect Roger Stauss as moderator. All were in favor with none opposed. Roger Stauss elected as Moderator.

2. To elect all Town Officers as required by law. Motion was made by Kate Stauss to move the article and the motion was seconded by Janet Brown. All were in favor.

   a. To elect a Selectperson for a 3 year term ending 2026. Kristi Fuller nominated Danial Sargeant and Victoria Crowne seconded. Tammie Beattie nominated Kenneth Beattie and Kate Stauss seconded. Bruce Hyde moved to close nominations and was seconded all. Motion made for a paper ballot and seconded. Kenneth Beattie received 24 votes and Dan Sargeant received 18 votes; Kenneth Beattie elected as Selectperson.

   b. To elect a Second Auditor for a 3 year term ending 2026. Victoria Crowne nominated Kellie Eckroth and Bruce Hyde seconded. All were in favor to elect Kellie Eckroth as Second Auditor.

   c. To elect a Second Constable for a 1 year term ending 2024. Mark Belisle nominated Jeff Lumbra and Kate Stauss seconded. All were in favor to elect Jeff Lumbra as Second Constable.

   d. To elect a Delinquent Tax Collector for a 1 year term ending 2024. Janet Brown nominated Nancy Needham and Tammie Beattie seconded. All were in favor of electing Nancy Needham as Delinquent Tax Collector.

   e. To elect a Second Cemetery Commissioner for a 3 year term ending 2026. Janet Brown nominated Scott Sargeant and Janice Viogie seconded. All were in favor of electing Scott Sargeant as Second Cemetery Commissioner.

To hear the Selectboard Report. Bruce read the report then went on to thanked everyone for coming and thanked the following people: Jennifer Stickney for her years of service to the Town and Nancy and Cheryl for all that they do. A brief discussion ensued regarding the roads and using the proper materials; the Selectboard and Road Commissioner will look into the matter.

2. Shall the Town of Granville vote to accept the budget of $388,304.00 to meet expenses and liabilities of the Town and authorize the Selectboard to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same? Kate Stauss made the motion to move the article. Motion was seconded by Danial Sargeant. Danial Sargeant indicated that it would be nice to have a Profit & Loss Report with the budget/expenses/balances so we can clearly see where the historical trends are for money being spent; Michael Cunningham agreed. Lou Englehardt inquired about the paving of town roads; Bruce Hyde explained that it would be used to fix the aprons on the 4 roads we have paved now. Roger Stauss indicated that we were getting off topic and should stick with discussing the Budget. Kate Stauss inquired about Account 6030 Maintenance and the Sand Pile. Bruce Hyde indicated that increase was due to plans to fix the windows in the Church and possibly the Town Hall. Kenneth Beattie indicated that we had plenty of sand. Michael Cunningham inquired about Account 7000 Trash/Recycling and Cheryl Sargeant explained that it was a fee the Town paid to be in the Solid Waste District and the fee the Town paid to North Star Rubbish Removal to take the Town residents trash and recycling each week. Mark Belisle moved to close discussion and Julie Reiderer seconded. All were in favor; Article 2 passed.

3. Shall the Town of Granville vote to authorize the Treasurer to apply any surplus remaining in the Highway Budget’s current fiscal year into the Highway Capital Investment Fund? Tammie Beattie made the motion to authorize and Kate Stauss seconded. All were in favor; Article 3 passed.
4. Shall the Town of Granville vote to increase the Highway Capital Investment Fund in the amount of $6,000 for the purpose of repaving town roads? Kellie Eckroth moved the question and Janet Brown seconded. Michael Cunningham asked which roads? After some discussion about which roads to repave; Kate Stauss called the question and Tammie Beattie seconded. All were in favor; Article 4 passed.

5. Shall the Town of Granville vote to increase the Municipal Building Investment Fund in the amount of $5,000 for the purpose of repainting the municipal complex? Kate Stauss moved the question and Christian Jaquith seconded. After a brief discussion; Kate Stauss called the question and Janet Brown seconded. All were in favor; Article 5 passed.

6. Shall the Town of Granville vote to appropriate $500.00 to the Corner School Resource Center of Granville VT in support of its community programs and WiFi service this year? Kellie Eckroth moved the question and Kate Stauss seconded. Kate Stauss explained that it was a community center and that they welcome public involvement. Lou Englehardt asked about insulation; Michael Eramo explained that they were working with Efficiency Vermont to get a grant to help insulate more of the building. A suggestion was made to put a Line Item into the Appropriations section in the future and Cheryl Sargeant agreed. Kenneth Beattie called the question and Kate Stauss seconded. All were in favor; Article 6 passed.

7. Shall the Town of Granville vote to authorize property taxes to be paid to the Treasurer as provided by law, in four (4) equal installments, with due dates being; August 16, November 16, February 16 and May 16? Danial Sargeant moved to call the question and was seconded by Kellie Eckroth. All were in favor; Article 7 passed.

8. Shall the Town of Granville vote that overdue taxes will bear interest at a rate of one percent (1%) per month or fraction thereof for the first three months and thereafter one and one-half percent (1 1/2%) per month or fraction thereof from the due date of such tax pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5136? Bruce Hyde made the motion to call the question and was seconded by Kristie Fuller. All were in favor; Article 8 passed.


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Bruce Hyde/Selectboard Chairman  Roger Stauss / Moderator