

TOWN OF GRANVILLE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
March 4, 2025

After an introduction and explanation of Roberts' Rules and Points of Order, the meeting was then called to order at 6:10 p.m.

1. 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 Roger Stauss. All were in favor.

a. To elect a Moderator for the year ensuing. Kate Stauss nominated Kelli Eckroth and Nancy Demers seconded. Kate Stauss moved to close nominations and Janet Brown seconded. The moderator called for a voice vote to elect Kelli Eckroth as moderator. All were in favor with none opposed. **Kelli Eckroth elected as Moderator.**

b. To elect a Selectperson for a 3 year term ending 2028. Bruce Hyde nominated Kelli Eckroth and Roger Stauss seconded. Victoria Crowne moved to close nominations and Kate Stauss seconded. The moderator called for a paper ballot to elect Kelli Eckroth as Selectperson. All were in favor with none opposed. **Kelli Eckroth elected as Selectperson.**

c. To elect a Town Clerk for a 3 year term ending 2028. James Parrish nominated Cheryl L. Sargeant and John Crowne seconded. Bruce Hyde moved to close nominations and Kate Stauss seconded. All were in favor to elect **Cheryl L. Sargeant as Town Clerk.**

d. To elect a Town Treasurer for a 3 year term ending 2028. Roger Stauss nominated Nancy Needham and Victoria Crowne seconded. James Parrish moved to close nominations and Roger Stauss seconded. All were in favor to elect **Nancy Needham as Town Treasurer.**

e. To elect a Second Constable for a 1 year term ending 2026. Bruce Hyde nominated Jennifer Stickney and Victoria Crowne seconded. All were in favor to elect **Jennifer Stickney as Second Constable.**

f. To elect a Second Auditor for a 3 year term ending 2028. Roger Stauss nominated Bruce Hyde and Kate Stauss seconded. Janet Brown moved to close nominations and Nancy Demers seconded. All were in favor of electing **Bruce Hyde as Second Auditor.**

g. To elect a Delinquent Tax Collector for a 1 year term ending 2026. Victoria Crowne nominated Nancy Needham and Janet Brown seconded. Kate Stauss moved to close nominations and Victoria Crowne seconded. All were in favor of electing **Nancy Needham as Delinquent Tax Collector.**

h. To elect a First Cemetery Commissioner for a 2 year term ending 2027. Roger Stauss nominated Kate Stauss and Janet Brown seconded. Victoria Crowne moved to close nominations and Nancy Demers seconded. All were in favor of electing **Kate Stauss as First Cemetery Commissioner.**

i. To elect a Third Cemetery Commissioner for a 3 year term ending 2028. Kate Stauss nominated William Brokof and Victoria Crowne seconded. Roger Stauss moved to close nominations and Kate Stauss seconded. All were in favor of electing **William Brokof as Third Cemetery Commissioner.**

Senators Jay Hooper and Ruth Hardy spoke of the happenings at the State House and federally funded programs.

2. To hear the Selectboard Report. Motion was made by Roger Stauss to move the article and the motion was seconded by Kate Stauss. Bruce reviewed the report highlighting projects at the Municipal Complex and went on to thank everyone for coming. Bruce also reviewed the Road Commissioners Report mentioning the graveling project this summer and went on to thank our contractors for helping to keep the roads well maintained. A brief discussion about the reappraisal work, how the graveling project would be done and the lack of a local gravel supplier prompting higher costs. Kate Stauss moved to call the question and Nancy Demers seconded. **All were in favor; Article 2 passed.**

3. Shall the Town of Granville vote to accept the budget of \$420,820.00 to meet expenses and liabilities of the Town and authorize the Selectboard to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same? Robert Readie made the motion to move the article motion was seconded by Mark Belisle. Kate Stauss asked about the insert from Granville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. and Valley Rescue Squad indicating that the Proposed Budget shows they are level funded but it looks like they are asking for more money. After a brief discussion and approval of the members present from the GVFD that the amount in the Proposed Budget would remain as presented. Roger Stauss made the motion to accept the Proposed Budget as presented and John Crowne seconded. **All were in favor; Article 3 passed.**

Kelli indicated that there would be a short recess and that there were refreshments in the kitchen area. Restart of the meeting 7:17 p.m.

Henry Webb, GVFD Treasurer explained to the group that the GVFD was not requesting additional funds as thought but that they were moving funds around in their Fund Raising Accounts to cover budgeted items so it is correct that they wanted to be level funded.

4. 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? Motion was made by Kate Stauss to move the article and the motion was seconded by Victoria Crowne. William Bentley inquired if the surplus and/or deficit was a regular occurrence. Bruce Hyde explained yes depending on the year the Town does have surplus funds to put into the Capital Investment Fund to be used only for Highway work. Bruce Hyde made the motion to authorize and Roger Stauss 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? Mark Belisle moved the question and Cheryl L. Sargeant 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 adopt a Noise Ordinance? Roger Stauss moved the question and John Crowne seconded. Bruce indicated that the Selectboard had been receiving complaints and decided to put the article on more as an advisory question to get public input. After discussion; Victoria Crowne called the question and John Crowne seconded. **1 Yeah in favor of pursuing and 48 Neah not in favor of pursuing; Article 6 failed.**

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 14, November 13, February 12 and May 14? Kate Stauss called the question and Mike Eramo seconded. **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? Mike Eramo called the question and Kate Stauss seconded. **All were in favor; Article 8 passed.**

9. To transact any other business to come before the meeting. Norman Arseneault mentioned that we needed to recognize and commend Bruce Hyde for his 9 years of service to the Town of Granville as Selectboard member and School Board member. **A round of applause and thank yous for Bruce!**

Kate Stauss mentioned that the Corner School Resource Center of Granville is holding a community fun filled Mystery Moving Night on the last Thursday of each month. Door opens at 5:30 p.m. with warm soup, baked bread and cookies.

Mark reminded everyone of the Rabies Clinic at the Hancock Fire Station on March 19th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

11. To adjourn said meeting. Mark Belisle made the motion to adjourn, and Rachel Grigorian seconded.
Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Bruce Hyde/Selectboard Chairman

Kelli Eckroth / Moderator