

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE TOWN OF WATERBURY  
MARCH 6, 2012**

The inhabitants of the Town of Waterbury who are legal voters in Town Meetings are hereby notified and warned to meet in the Thatcher Brook Primary School Gym in the Village of Waterbury at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon on March 6, 2012 to act on the following matters:

Governor Shumlin was present to address the town. He stated that Waterbury is the best example in Vermont history as to how a community pulls together to take on diversity, the way Waterbury has responded to Irene. He talked about the effects of the storm and ongoing recovery. He outlined the proposed government plan to help with the flood relief effort and stated that the best solution for the State Complex is to reoccupy as soon as possible.

**ARTICLE 1:** To elect a Moderator to preside at the meetings of the Town whose term of office shall be for the ensuing year.

R. Ellis made a motion to elect Jeff Kilgore to preside at the meetings of the Town whose term of office shall be for the ensuing year. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 2:** To see if the Town will appropriate a sum of money for the establishment and the operations of a police department that will provide police services to the entire town.

Bob Butler made a motion to appropriate \$120,000 for the establishment and the operations of a police department that will provide police services to the entire town. B. Butler gave a background on how the issue came to be and information as to how the department will be configured. Alfred Commo Jr. made a motion that the article be postponed indefinitely. The motion was seconded. The moderator explained the meaning of the motion. R. Ellis talked to concerns about studying this issue and deciding how large a department should be for the Town in an effort to budget appropriately. She spoke to the benefits of a town wide police department, for the Village as well as outside of the Village.

Tom Burroughs requested that the motion be postponed until more research is done. Gloria Commo spoke to the size and costs of police departments for communities our size. Gwendolyn Duquette stated she feels it is an issue rooted in economics. K. Daye spoke in favor of the town wide police force. L. Wilder made a motion to suspend the debate. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. A paper ballot was called for and approved. The result of the vote to suspend the motion indefinitely was 401 in favor and 110 opposed. Article 2 was postponed indefinitely.

Bob Butler and Skip Flanders presented the Keith Wallace Award for community service to Rebecca Ellis for her incredible service to the community in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene. She was joined by her family and presented flowers by Natalie Howell-Sherman.

**ARTICLE 3:** To elect by Australian ballot the following offices: Clerk for 1 year; Treasurer for 1 year; One Select Board member for 3 year term and Two Select Board members for 1 year terms each; Lister for 3 years; Grand Juror for 1 year; Town Agent for 1 year; One Library Commissioner for 5 year term; One Cemetery Commissioner for 5 year term.

**ARTICLE 4:** To elect by Australian ballot for the Waterbury Town School District one School Director for a 3-year term.

**ARTICLE 5:** To elect by Australian ballot for Waterbury-Duxbury School District #45 one School Director for a 3 year term.

**ARTICLE 6:** To act upon the reports of the several Town Officers with the exception of claims for fees or compensation during 2011.

J. Grenier made a motion to accept the reports of the several Town Officers as printed in the annual report, with the exception of claims for fees or compensation by town officers for services rendered during 2011. The motion was seconded.

W. Shepeluk brought some errors to the attention of the public. He indicated corrections that should be made to pages 23, 26, 27 and 33. The motion passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 7:** To act with respect to claims of Town Officers for their services during 2011.

B. Butler made a motion to pay the claims of the Town Officers for their services rendered during 2011, as appears on page 8 of the annual report. Select Board Chair, \$1200; other Select Board members, \$1000 each; Listers, \$400 each. The motion was seconded.

It was brought to the Board's attention that page 8 is incorrect. B. Butler moved to amend the motion to pay the claims of the Town Officers for their services rendered during 2011: Select Board Chair, \$1,200; other Select Board members, \$1,000 each; Listers, \$400 each. The amended motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. The motion as amended passed by voice vote.

It was clarified that claims being paid in 2012 are for services rendered in 2011.

W. Shepeluk indicated that the Select Board did not make the proposal to double their pay. He put the numbers together while doing the budget, and did so because of their hard work during 2011. It is a small token of appreciation for their services.

**ARTICLE 8:** To see what action the Town will take with reference to fixing the date of the tax warrant on real and personal property and to set a date or dates when taxes on such property shall become due and payable and to see whether the same shall be paid with or without discount and to provide with regard for interest on such taxes as are not paid when due.

P. Clapp made a motion that the tax warrant on real property be dated July 1, 2012, and that taxes be due in two installments, the first installment due and payable on August 10, 2012, and the second installment be due and payable on November 9, 2012, without discount and that interest be charged at the maximum allowed by statute, not to exceed one and one-half percent per month or portion thereof on each installment, and a late penalty of eight percent be charged as allowed by statute on taxes not paid when due. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to borrow a sum of money by note for a term not to exceed five (5) years to finance expenses caused by Tropical Storm Irene.

K. Miller made a motion to authorize the Select Board to borrow up to \$310,000 by note for a term not to exceed five years to finance expenses caused by Tropical Storm Irene. The motion was seconded.

K. Miller spoke to the motion and indicated that flood related expenses total \$568,367. It is anticipated that FEMA reimbursements will total \$177,537, leaving a balance of \$390,830. It is

anticipated that \$100,000 will be transferred from that tax stabilization fund. Therefore, the Board would like authorization to borrow to help offset outstanding expenses.

S. Mackey asked about the potential tax increase. W. Shepeluk addressed the many challenges to the community as a result of the Tropical Storm Irene, however there were minimal infrastructure damages. The Board is anticipating a tax rate no higher than 35 cents, as compared to 34 cents last year. The budget has been structured to allow flexibility to the Board due to uncertainties related to the storm.

The motion passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 10:** To vote sums of money for necessary general government, highway, and library expenses, with the same to be expressed either in specific dollar amounts or as a rate or tax on the grand list.

R. Ellis made a motion that the voters approve for the Town of Waterbury the following sums of money: for necessary general government expenses and indebtedness, \$1,873,890; for laying out and repairing highways, \$1,268,755; for library expenses and indebtedness, \$249,760; for expenditures of designated reserve funds, \$143,000; plus any sums of money approved in Articles 12 through 25; and that the Select Board be authorized to set a total municipal tax rate not to exceed \$.35/\$100 of property valuation for calendar year 2012. The motion was seconded.

R. Ellis spoke to the motion and gave an explanation as to how the tax rate was developed.

R. Boyle asked about the elections and professional services line items. C. Lawrence explained that elections line item is higher in 2012 due to more elections being held during the year. W. Shepeluk stated that the professional line item includes the development of a town personnel policy, and that the town has hired firms to help represent the town with the message for legislature. In addition, there are other expenses yet to be determined to get assistance from organizations to implement some of the long term community recovery projects.

There was a question on special project grant fund on page 32 in the amount of \$12,500. It was explained that this is a planning advance grant. The town will receive \$11,000 from the State for a municipal planning grant which will be used to assist the town in revising its municipal plan and perform a community survey.

B. Grace asked if the town will be able to keep up with Municipal infrastructure with the proposed tax rate. The Board stated they are trying hard to have a budget that has a flat impact on the municipal tax rate this year, but there are implications for the long term.

The additional costs for propane and electricity on page 28 is due to the fact that the municipal office is now located at the fire department building. These expenses should not be part of the fire department budget.

There are no expenses in the budget for the property at 51 South Main Street. This property is owned by the Village and will be discussed at Village meeting on Wednesday night.

Rick Boyle made a motion to amend the budget to increase the Revitalizing Waterbury budget line item on page 32 from \$7,500 to \$9,000. The motion was seconded. R. Boyle spoke to the motion. RW does work that shows that this town is a town with spirit and diversity. The amendment to the motion passed by voice vote. The original motion as amended passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the voters will authorize a sum of money to be expended from the capital funds for capital projects.

J. Grenier made a motion to authorize the expenditure of \$1,154,275 for purchases of vehicles and capital improvements identified in the town's capital improvement budgets. The motion was seconded.

J. Grenier brought the voters' attention to page 24 and 25 of the annual report, which outlines the capital projects for 2012. The motion passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will, during 2012, appropriate:

- \$750 for the support of the Central Vermont Community Land Trust
- \$250 for the support of Central Vermont Crime Stoppers
- \$500 for support of the Good Beginnings of Central Vermont
- \$500 for support of the People's Health and Wellness Clinic
- \$300 for support of the Sexual Assault Crisis Team
- \$250 for support of the Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- \$600 for support of the Vermont Center for Independent Living
- \$300 for support of the Washington County Court Diversion Program
- \$800 for support of the Waterbury Community Band

B. Butler made a motion that the Town, during 2012, appropriate:

- \$750 for the support of the Central Vermont Community Land Trust
- \$250 for the support of Central Vermont Crime Stoppers
- \$500 for support of the Good Beginnings of Central Vermont
- \$500 for support of the People's Health and Wellness Clinic
- \$300 for support of the Sexual Assault Crisis Team
- \$250 for support of the Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually impaired
- \$600 for support of the Vermont Center for Independent Living
- \$300 for support of the Washington County Court Diversion Program
- \$800 for support of the Waterbury Community Band

The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will appropriate \$1,200 in support of Central Vermont Adult Basic Education during 2012.

Georgiana Birmingham made a motion that the Town appropriate \$1,200 in support of Central Vermont Adult Basic Education during 2012. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 14:** To see if the Town will appropriate \$1,000 for support of the Central Vermont Community Action Council during 2012.

Liz Schlegel Stevens made a motion that the Town appropriate \$1,000 for support of the Central Vermont Community Action Council during 2012. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will appropriate \$1,000 for support of Central Vermont Council on the Aging during 2012.

T. Burroughs made a motion that Town appropriate \$1,000 for support of Central Vermont Council on the Aging during 2012. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 16:** To see if the Town will appropriate \$1,375 for support of Circle (formerly Battered Women's Services, and Shelter) during 2012

Ron Siegel made a motion that the Town appropriate \$1,375 for support of Circle (formerly Battered Women's Services, and Shelter) during 2012. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will appropriate \$4,000 for support of the Early Education Resource Center of Waterbury ("Children's Room") during 2012.

Kelly Hackett made a motion that the Town appropriate \$4,000 for support of the Early Education Resource Center of Waterbury ("Children's Room") during 2012. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

J. Malter took the floor briefly to speak about the Mad River Management Resource Management Alliance and their activities during 2011.

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the Town will appropriate \$1,000 for support of the Family Center of Washington County during 2012.

Coleman Baker made a motion that the Town appropriate \$1,000 for support of the Family Center of Washington County during 2012. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 19:** To see if the Town will appropriate \$7,323 in support of Green Mountain Transit Agency during 2012.

Steve Lotspeich made a motion that the Town appropriate \$7,325 in support of Green Mountain Transit Agency during 2012. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 20:** To see if the Town will appropriate \$1,000 for support of Project Independence during 2012.

Alfred Commo Jr. made a motion that the Town appropriate \$1,000 for support of Project Independence during 2012. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will appropriate \$1,000 for support of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (R.S.V.P.) during 2012.

Randall Travis made a motion that the Town appropriate \$1,000 for support of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (R.S.V.P.) during 2012. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town will appropriate \$1,500 for support of Washington County Youth Service Bureau, Inc. during 2012.

Georgiana Birmingham made a motion that the Town appropriate \$1,500 for support of Washington County Youth Service Bureau, Inc. during 2012. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 23:** To see if the Town will appropriate \$20,000 for the Waterbury Area Senior Association in addition to the amount included in the General Fund Budget for such purpose during 2012.

K. Smith made a motion that the Town appropriate \$20,000 for the Waterbury Area Senior Association in addition to the amount included in the General Fund Budget for such purpose during 2012. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 24:** To see if the Town will appropriate \$2,000 for the support of the Waterbury Grange #237 during 2012.

Annette White made a motion that the Town appropriate \$2,000 for the support of the Waterbury Grange #237 during 2012. The motion was seconded. It was requested that a report be placed in the town report. The motion passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 25:** To see if the Town will appropriate \$2,500 in support of Waterbury LEAP (Local Energy Action Partnership) during 2012.

Duncan McDougall made a motion that the Town appropriate \$2,500 in support of Waterbury LEAP (Local Energy Action Partnership) during 2012. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 26:** To see if the Town will change the Annual Meeting date to the Monday preceding the first Tuesday in March at 5:00 o'clock in the afternoon.

K. Miller made a motion that that the Town change the Annual Meeting date to the Monday preceding the first Tuesday in March at 5:00 o'clock in the afternoon. The motion was seconded.

K. Miller indicated that the reason the article is presented is that it is very difficult for some residents to make it to Town meeting on Tuesday morning. This time would make it easier for people to attend after work. Alfred Commo Jr. moved to amend the motion to change the time of the meeting from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. The motion to amend was seconded. It was asked if this change in time would increase attendance. B. Butler indicated that research shows that it does not, in the long term, increase participation to any substantial degree. The ability to discuss important issues is what is most important. More discussion was held, both in favor and against the motion. C. Grenier made a motion to limit the debate on the amendment. The motion to limit the debate was seconded and passed by voice vote. The amendment to change the time of the meeting 5:00pm to 7:00pm to was defeated by voice vote. It was moved and seconded to limit debate on the main motion, which passed by voice vote. The main motion was defeated by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 27:** To do any other business that may legally come before the Board during the meeting.

Theresa Wood made some comments with regard to ReBuild Waterbury and the flood recovery efforts that are underway. There are currently 60 open cases and this number is growing. There are still many people displaced from their homes. She explained some of the various disaster relief funds. The total budget is \$918,000. They have raised \$125,000 to date and donations are still coming in. Heritage Automotive Group sponsored the website, aired commercials and made a documentary for fund raising purposes. M. K. Monley thanked everyone in the community for their support.

Al Lewis spoke of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Rotary Club, and stated that there are a lot of events planned for the summer, including the 30<sup>th</sup> concert in the park series. Waterbury Rotary will be facilitating the 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities.

J. Grenier, on behalf of the Select Board, thanked Bob Butler for his 7 years of service on the Select Board.

John Callan asked about the status any projects related to Route 100 and Hollow Road, and whether there are any efforts being made to move the telephone poles. The intersection is being redesigned, and one pole has been moved.

Anne Imhoff thanked the community for their help during the flood. She has been working with the State to reconstruct a trail to the CCC camps and offered to show interested people the trails.

G. Commo asked if any consideration would be given to having all items voted by Australian ballot. J. Grenier indicated that the Board's position is that to lose debate would be unfortunate and that town meeting allows for debate and more information for the Board to base their decisions. Floor meetings allow for tangible input on the budget.

It was asked if there are plans to reconstruct the streets and sidewalks on Randall Street. RW and RBW are talking about a green up day to improve the landscaping on Randall Street.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Carla Lawrence, Town Clerk

*Approved at a meeting held on March 19, 2012  
and recorded in the Town Records.*

Annual Town Meeting ~ March 6, 2012  
 Results of Articles 3 - 5, as voted on by Australian Ballot

<b>Town Clerk - 1 year</b>	
Carla Lawrence	1131
Write-Ins	2
Blanks	74
<b>Total</b>	<b>1207</b>

<b>Lister - for 3 years</b>	
Philip Baker	1057
Write-Ins	2
Blanks	148
<b>Total</b>	<b>1207</b>

<b>Treasurer - 1 years term</b>	
Carla Lawrence	1119
Write-Ins	4
Blanks	84
<b>Total</b>	<b>1207</b>

<b>Grand Juror - for 1 year</b>	
John H. Woodruff IV	1059
Write-Ins	2
Blanks	146
<b>Total</b>	<b>1207</b>

<b>Select Board - for 3 years</b>	
John Grenier	1046
Write-Ins	20
Blanks	141
<b>Total</b>	<b>1207</b>

<b>Town Agent</b>	
Carla Lawrence	1085
Write-Ins	1
Blanks	121
<b>Total</b>	<b>1207</b>

<b>Select Board - for 1 year (vote for two)</b>	
Pamela Clapp	581
Christopher Nordle	590
Chris Viens	755
Write-Ins	13
Blanks	475
<b>Total</b>	<b>2414</b>

<b>Library Commissioner - for 5 years</b>	
Freya Chaffee	1008
Write-Ins	6
Blanks	193
<b>Total</b>	<b>1207</b>

<b>Town School Director - for 3 years</b>	
Ellen Dorsey	992
Write-Ins	9
Blanks	206
<b>Total</b>	<b>1207</b>

Total Checklist                    3582  
 Total Voted                            1207  
 Percentage Voted                    33.7%

<b>Union #45 School Director - for 3 years</b>	
Ellen Dorsey	982
Write-Ins	8
Blanks	217
<b>Total</b>	<b>1207</b>

## Presidential Primary - March 6, 2012

Republican	
Newt Gingrich	40
Jon Huntsman	11
Ron Paul	158
Rick Perry	6
Mitt Romney	197
Rick Santorum	111
Write-Ins	3
Total	526

Democratic	
Barack Obama	327

Total Checklist	3582
Total Voted	853
Percentage Voted	23.8%