

MINUTES

Annual Meeting Town of Jay & Jay School District

March 5, 2013

Meeting opened 10:10 a.m. by David Sanders. Dave opened the meeting with an explanation of procedural issues to Roberts Rules of Order. Some key points were on amendments, questions for candidates, calling the question, and reconsideration of articles.

Article 1. Elect a moderator for a one year term.

David Sanders was nominated by Emy Harmon. Voice vote all in favor. Ayes carried. Clerk cast 1 ballot in favor. David Sanders was elected moderator for a one year term.

Article 2. To hear and act upon the reports of the town officers.

a. Selectmen's Report. Motion to accept as written made by Emy Harmon, seconded by Peter Fina. No one opposed. Report accepted as written by voice vote. Peggy mentioned how the town has lost a lot of good people over the last year who were people who worked for the good of the town. Peggy asked for townspeople to step up to the plate in order to keep the town of Jay running smoothly.

b. Road Commissioner's Report. Motion to accept as written made by Emy Harmon, seconded by Peter Fina. No one opposed. Report accepted as written by voice vote.

c. School Director's Report. Motion made to accept as written by Emy Harmon, seconded by Peter Fina. No one opposed. Report accepted as written by voice vote. Sally thanked everyone for their support, and stated 100% of $\frac{3}{4}$ met or exceeded target on NECAP. Sally mentioned that the school was moving forward with net books/I pads for the upcoming core change in testing.

d. Treasurer's Report. Motion made to accept as written by Emy Harmon, seconded by Jo Ann Morse. No one opposed. Report accepted as written by voice vote. Tara mentioned to everyone the status of the audits. She stated 2011 is almost completed and 2012 will be started sometime in May.

Article 3. To elect all necessary town officials required by law.

a. Selectman for three years. David Sanders was nominated by Emy Harmon. No other nominations. So carried. Voice vote all in favor. Ayes approved. Moderator asked Clerk to cast 1 ballot in favor. David Sanders was elected Selectmen for three years.

b. School Director for three years. Myra Alix was nominated by Emy Harmon. No other nominations. So carried. Voice vote all in favor. Ayes approved. Moderator asked Clerk to cast 1 ballot in favor. Myra Alix was elected School Director for three years.

c. Lister for three years. Ronald Kapeluck was nominated by Deb Talty. No other nominations. So carried. Voice vote all in favor. Ayes approved. Moderator asked Clerk to cast 1 ballot in favor. Ronald Kapeluck was elected Lister for three years.

d. Auditor for three years. Kelley Bradley was nominated by Peggy Loux. No other nominations. So carried. Voice vote all in favor. Ayes approved. Moderator asked Clerk to cast 1 ballot in favor. Kelley Bradley was elected Auditor for three years.

e. NCUHS/NCUJHS School Director for three years. Le-Ann Tetrault was nominated by Emy Harmon. No other nominations. So carried. Voice vote all in favor. Ayes approved. Moderator asked Clerk to cast 1 ballot in favor. Le-Ann Tetrault was elected NCUHS/NCUJHS School Director for three years.

f. Delinquent Tax Collector for one year. Cynthia Vincent was nominated by Emy Harmon. No other nominations. So carried. Voice vote all in favor. Ayes approved. Moderator asked Clerk to cast 1 ballot in favor. Cynthia Vincent was elected Delinquent Tax Collector for one year.

g. Town Agent for one year. Irene McDermut was nominated by Emy Harmon. No other nominations. So carried. Voice vote all in favor. Ayes approved. Moderator asked Clerk to cast 1 ballot in favor. Irene McDermut was elected Town Agent for one year.

h. Grand Juror for one year. Irene McDermut was nominated by Peggy Loux. No other

nominations. So carried. Voice vote all in favor. Ayes approved. Moderator asked Clerk to cast 1 ballot in favor. Irene McDermut was elected Grand Juror for one year.

i. Constable for one year. Michael Caffrey was nominated by Michael Pappalardo. No other nominations. So carried. Voice vote all in favor. Ayes approved. Moderator asked Clerk to cast 1 ballot in favor. Michael Caffrey was elected Constable for one year.

j. Lister for two years. Kurtis Johnson was nominated by Peggy Loux. No other nominations. So carried. Voice vote all in favor. Ayes approved. Moderator asked Clerk to cast 1 ballot in favor. Kurtis Johnson was elected Lister for two years.

Article 4. Shall the town appropriate \$240,560 to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Highway Budget for year 2013? Motion to accept as written by Emy Harmon, seconded by Michael Pappalardo. Voted by voice vote to approve \$240,560. No one opposed. Ayes carried. No discussion.

Article 5. Shall the Town of Jay appropriate \$479,861 for the Selectboard & Equipment Budget for 2013? Motion to accept by Roseanne Beaudry, seconded by Harold Morse. Voted by voice vote to approve \$479,861. No one opposed. Ayes carried. Very little discussion. The discussion was in regards to equipment. The budget includes \$40,000 for upgrading the fleet.

Article 6. Shall the town appropriate \$70,300 (2.75% of the 2012 Grand List 2,556,380) to the Jay Volunteer Fire Department? Motion to accept by Michael Pappalardo, seconded by Timothy Cook. Voted by voice vote to approve \$70,300. No one opposed. Ayes carried. No Discussion.

Article 7. Shall the voters of the Town of Jay vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,583 to the Orleans County Sheriff's Department for law enforcement services? Motion to accept by Michael Pappalardo, seconded by Richard Thompson. Amendment to the article was made by Richard Thompson to put in caution lights and electronic speed signs, seconded by Liz Sargent. Discussion followed on the amendment to the town needs State approval to put in any type of signage on VT RTE 242. Bill Dicarlo stated the speed signs that were being discussed would cost around \$30,000 +/- for two. Constable was thrown out there for an idea for local control. Another thought was to work with Jay Peak on a solution. The amendment was voted on by voice vote to deny the amended motion by Rick. Nays carried. The original article was back on the floor which stemmed further discussion. It was stated that the town has a public safety issue with speeding along VT RTE 242 during morning commute around 5-8 a.m. when school busses are loading & unloading children. Their was a comment to how dangerous this is to everyone, and the town needs a short/long term solution for this situation. Other ideas were to work with Jay Peak managers to inform employees of the issue. Selectboard responded this has already been discussed with Jay Peak. Question was what can a constable do, what authority can be enforced? The constable in the town currently is not trained for that position. The constable would have to attend Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council VT Police Academy. From here there was a lot of back/forth discussions on how there is already enough law enforcement around with Border Patrol and State Police. There was a comment to the State police as they do not work for the community. After the lengthy discussion it was decided to form a committee which will meet and report back to the selectboard with the progress and ideas that the committee has come up with. The original article was then voted on by voice vote to deny the appropriation. Few opposed. Nays carried.

Article 8. Shall the town voters approve the following sums for appropriations: Motion to accept by Michael Pappalardo as one package, seconded by Cynthia Vincent. No discussion. Voted by voice vote to approve. No one opposed. Ayes carried.

- a. \$6,390 to Missisquoi Valley Ambulance Service.
- b. \$ 800 to Jay Athletic Association.
- c. \$ 250 to Jay Area Food Shelf.
- d. \$1,000 to Rand Memorial Library.
- e. \$ 200 to Northeastern VT Dev. Association.
- f. \$ 750 to Orleans Essex VNA & Hospice Inc.
- g. \$ 547 to NE Kingdom Human Services Inc.
- h. \$ 300 to NE VT Area Agency on Aging.

- i. \$ 250 to VT Assoc. of Blind & Visually Impaired.
- j. \$ 200 to Umbrella FKA STEP ONE.
- k. \$ 200 to VT Ctr. Of Independent Living.
- l. \$ 200 to Northeast Kingdom Learning Services.
- m. \$ 800 to Orleans County Citizen Advocacy.
- n. \$ 100 to Orleans County Court Diversion Program (NECKA).
- o. \$ 125 to Orleans County Historical Society.
- p. \$ 100 to Northern VT RC & D Council.
- q. \$ 50 to Vermont Green Up Inc.
- r. \$ 300 to Rural Community Transportation.
- s. \$ 400 to Hazen's Notch Association.
- t. \$ 250 to Frontier Animal Society.
- u. \$ 150 to Jay Focus Group.
- v. \$ 100 to Jay Halloween Party.
- w. \$ 250 to American Red Cross.
- x. \$ 250 to Green Mtn. Farm to School.

Article 9. Shall the voters of the Town of Jay vote to appropriate the sum of \$300 to the American Legion Jay Peak Post No. 28 for observance of Memorial Day to place flags on all Veterans graves in the cemetery? Motion to accept made by Cynthia Vincent, seconded by Michael Pappalardo. Voted by voice vote to approve \$300.00. No one opposed. Ayes carried.

Article 10. Shall the town collect taxes on real estate, payable to the town Treasurer on or before Friday October 11, 2013? Motion to accept made by Emy Harmon, seconded by Cynthia Vincent. Voted by voice vote to collect real estate taxes on October 11, 2013. No one opposed. Ayes carried.

Article 11. To see if the legal voters of the Town of Jay agree to distribute surplus funds into two categories:

Cover operating expenses to be placed in the general fund until tax money becomes available? Motion to accept made by Irene McDermut, seconded by Harold Morse. Voted by voice vote. No one opposed. Ayes carried. It was asked if the town had a surplus? Tara stated yes there was a undesignated surplus around \$240,000.00 Tara explained the town runs on a calendar year so the town does not collect its taxes until September. This would allow no borrowing and the town would save \$5,000-\$6,000 in interest for a line of credit. Was discussion about how taxes are collected meaning once a year twice etc. Tara told everyone there that the office is more than willing to arrange individual payment plans to make it easier for people to pay their taxes.

The residual to decrease loan balance on the new town garage. Motion to accept made by Irene McDermut, seconded by Harold Morse. Voted by voice vote. No one opposed. Ayes carried.

Article 12. Shall the voters of the Jay Town School District vote to appropriate the sum of \$89,594 to meet the Local School Board expense? Motion to accept made by Jeff Morse, seconded by Emy Harmon. Voted by voice vote. No one opposed. Ayes carried. No discussion.

Article 13. Shall the voters of the Jay Town School District authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of revenue for the purpose of paying current expenses? Motion to accept made by Emy Harmon, seconded by Jeff Morse. Voted by voice vote. No one opposed. Ayes carried.

At 12:15 PM the meeting was suspended for lunch and restarted at 1:05 PM.

Article 14. Shall the Jay Town School District appropriate the sum of \$1,246,193 dollars to defray the expenses & liabilities for Jay/Westfield Joint Elementary School for the ensuing year with a net assessment to the town of \$796,429? Motion to accept made by Emy Harmon, seconded by Harold Morse. Voted by paper ballot. **Jay Yes 41 No 2 Westfield Yes 34 No 4.** There was little discussion as to what changes/additions were in the budget. Between board members and Tara it was explained that the increases were mainly contractual and fixed costs.

Article 15. Shall the voters of the Jay Town School District appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be put into the Buildings & Grounds Reserve Fund for future renovations to the Jay/Westfield Joint Elementary School, contingent upon approval of Westfield voters? Motion to accept made by Irene McDermut, seconded by Michael Pappalardo. Voted by paper ballot. **Jay Yes 40 No 0 Westfield Yes 37 No 2.** The board wanted to be proactive because the heating system is getting old and in need of repairing. It is ok for now, but the board wanted to set aside money so it would not have to happen all at once.

Article 16. To see if the town will employ a CPA to review all town accounts? Motion to accept made by Emy Harmon, seconded by Deb Talty. Vote by voice vote to hire a CPA. Ayes carried. Tara just explained this is a reoccurring article each year. Tara gave a brief update to the audit status. 2011 is 90% completed and 2012 had not started yet.

Article 17. To transact any other (non-binding) business which may legally come before this meeting?

Bill Stenger from Jay Peak spoke, and wanted to express his appreciation on being able to speak to everyone. Bill stated how the mountain was growing and the employment status. Bill stated the mountain issued 1200 paychecks of which about 70% of those were residents of Orleans County. Bill told everyone that it was the one year anniversary for Hotel Jay which was a very productive year. Bill stated the resort's goals have been to improve the economic and employment situation of the town and area. The resort's idea is to keep business flowing with the continued growth in the Conference Center/Weddings/Water Park. Bill talked about how Jay Peak is pursuing the Porsche Club of America. If that group comes to Jay for the national convention in June of 2016, it would bring about \$1 million in income for the area. Bill went on to explain how the water park had 200,000 visits in the first year, and they will have close to 300,000 visits in the second year, and hoping for 400,000. Bill went on to talk about working with North Country Hospital and two other regional hospitals to build a medical facility. Jay Peak would build it, and staff would be by the hospitals. They are hoping to start building, and open in 2014. One resident ask about the parking at the mountain. Bill stated they have been keeping about half of the lower level for hotel guests because this makes it easier to plow, and the other half is open to day skiers.

Peggy wanted to thank everyone who volunteered for the traffic committee.

Article 18. To adjourn. Motion to adjourn was made by Emy Harmon at 1:10 PM, seconded by Deb Talty which passed unanimously.

There were 313 names on the checklist.

Australian Ballot items are voted at the Jay/Westfield Joint Elementary School during the day on March 5, 2013. The polls open at 10:00 A.M. and close at 7:00 P.M.

Article 19. To elect a joint school district treasurer. (Australian Ballot).

<u>RESULT OF VOTE:</u>	Tara Morse	<u>48</u>
	Blank	<u>0</u>
	Write In	<u>0</u>
	Spoiled	<u>0</u>

Article 20. Shall the voters authorize the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District to appropriate and expend a budget of \$679,878.00?

<u>RESULT OF VOTE</u>	In Favor	<u>35</u>
	Opposed	<u>13</u>
	Blank	<u>0</u>

Article 21. Budget & other items of the North Country Union High School District.
(Australian Ballot).

Budget \$15,659,289

RESULT OF VOTE

In Favor	<u>39</u>
Opposed	<u>9</u>
Blank	<u>0</u>

NCUHS Capital Improvement Reserve Fund \$124,000

RESULT OF VOTE

In Favor	<u>36</u>
Opposed	<u>11</u>
Blank	<u>1</u>

Budget & other items of the North Country Union Junior High School District. (Australian Ballot).

Budget \$4,802,400

RESULT OF VOTE

In Favor	<u>36</u>
Opposed	<u>11</u>
Blank	<u>1</u>

Town Clerk _____

Moderator _____

Selectmen _____