

**TOWN OF SUNDERLAND  
MINUTES OF TOWN MEETING**

**MARCH 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 2009**

The meeting was called to order by Moderator Sally Ayrey at 7:30 PM. With approximately 50 people in attendance.

Moderator Ayrey welcomed everyone and asked Town Clerk Rose Keough to begin the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator Ayrey reviewed the procedures for the meeting. She also requested that everyone be respectful of each other.

Select Board Chairman Philip Bahan introduced attending the board members.

Moderator Ayrey stated that the Warning for this meeting is on page 6 of the Town Report. With no objection the reading of the Warning was dispensed with.

Article 1. To hear the reports of the Town Officers and take appropriate action thereon. Marilyn Couture moved to accept article one, seconded by Roberta Housman. The motion carried and all reports were accepted.

Article 2. Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to establish the salaries, wages and other compensation of the employees and other officers of the Town? Russell Housman moved to accept article two, seconded by Gloria Alexander. The motion carried.

Article 3. Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to borrow in anticipation of taxes, such sum or sums of money as may be necessary to properly finance the affairs of the Town? Carl Graves moved to accept article three, seconded by Steven Bendix. The motion carried.

Article 4. Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to spend unanticipated funds such as grants and gifts? Leslie Perra moved to accept article four, seconded by Rose Stone. The motion carried.

Article 5. Shall the Town pay its personal and property taxes to the Town Treasurer in equal installments with the payments to be in the hands of the Treasurer by October 15 and April 15? Harriet Welther moved to accept article five, Jeremy Crumb seconded the motion. Michael Perra asked why we have the second payment and Town Clerk Rose Keough explained that it was established to try to make things easier for the taxpayers and the date of April 15 was chosen so that no one would forget the date and it would not be necessary to send a second bill. The motion carried.

Article 6. Shall the Town levy an interest charge on all delinquent taxes of One Percent (1%) per month or fraction thereof, for the first three months, and thereafter One and One Half Percent (1.5%) per month or fraction thereof from the due date of each installment as provided by T32 VSA Sec. 5136 as amended? Marilyn Couture moved to accept article six, Carl Graves seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Article 7. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,200.00 to help defray the expenses of the Arlington Community Public Health Nursing Service, Inc., and if so voted, to authorize an increase to the General Fund Budget by this amount? Michael Welther moved to accept article seven, Roberta Housman seconded the motion. Harriet Welther asked if the \$1200.00 was the amount requested and Chairman Philip Bahan stated that is was. The motion carried.

Article 8. Shall the Town will appropriate the sum of \$3,525.00 to be used for the general operating expenses for the Arlington Recreational and Park Committee, Inc., and if so voted, to authorize an increase

to the General Fund Budget by this amount? Marjorie Maas moved to accept article eight seconded by Harriet Welther. The motion carried.

Article 9. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$11,000.00 to help defray the expenses of the Arlington Rescue Squad, Inc and if so voted, to authorize an increase to the General Fund Budget by this amount? Michael Welther moved to accept article nine, seconded by Russell Housman. The motion carried.

Article 10. Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$5,300.00 to help defray the expenses of the Martha Canfield Memorial Free Library, Inc., and if so voted, to authorize an increase to the General Fund Budget by this amount? Harriet Welther moved to accept article ten, seconded by Leslie Perra. The motion carried.

Article 11. To see if the Town of Sunderland will appropriate the sum of \$700 to help defray the expenses of Arlington Area Childcare, DBA Happy Days. (by petition). Heidi French moved to accept article eleven, seconded by Darri Cepela-Beach. The motion carried.

Article 12. Shall the Town approve the sum of \$40,000.00 to be added to the Highway Equipment Sinking Fund, and if so voted, to authorize an increase to the Highway Fund Budget by this amount? Leslie Perra moved to accept article twelve, seconded by Jeremy Crumb. Mary VanVleck asked why this item was not included in the budget and it was explained that with a separate article the voters could change the amount and that the replacement of the thirty-five year old grader could cost \$200,000.00. The motion carried.

Article 13. Shall the Town approve the sum of \$15,000.00 to be added to the State/Town Bridge Co-Op Sinking Fund, and if so voted, to authorize an increase to the Highway Fund Budget by this amount? Carl Graves moved to accept article thirteen, Steven Bendix seconded the motion. Judy Edmunds stated that we should ask for stimulus money. Michael Welther asked what this fund was for and James Ennis explained that it was for bridge repair or replacement. The bridge known as the Kelley Stand Bridge has been replaced and the Town has to pay a share with the State paying for the majority. The motion carried.

Article 14. Shall the Town approve the sum of \$40,000.00 to be added to the Paving Sinking Fund, and if so voted, to authorize an increase to the Highway Fund Budget by this amount? Jeremy Crumb moved to accept article fourteen, seconded by Michael Perra. Rose Stone asked if the money would be used for repairing existing paved roads or for new paving and James Ennis stated that the roads are in good shape so this will be used to top North Road and some on Sunderland Hill Road. The motion carried.

Article 15. Shall the Town approve the sum of \$1,500.00 to be added to the Guard Rail Sinking Fund, and if so voted, to authorize an increase to the Highway Fund Budget by this amount? Joseph Boutin moved to accept article fifteen, seconded by Leslie Perra. Michael Perra asked which area would be done next and Philip Bahan stated it would be around the town garage area such as Randall Hill. The motion carried.

Article 16. Shall the Town approve the sum of \$10,000.00 to be added to the Municipal Office Building Sinking Fund, and if so voted, to authorize an increase to the General Fund Budget by this amount? Rose Stone moved to accept article sixteen, seconded by Robert Alexander. Mary VanVleck stated that the Board keeps adding money to the fund but when will there be a vote. James Ennis stated he would vote tomorrow. Leslie Perra asked for an estimate on the cost and Philip Bahan stated it would be \$300,000.00 to \$400,000.00. Charles Troumbley asked how big the building would be and James Ennis stated that it would be about 2,000 square feet. William Coulter asked what was holding things up and John Stuermer stated that a committee needed to be formed and asked William Coulter if he would like to take that on. William Coulter stated that he would. Philip Bahan stated that the Board is waiting for the voters to get involved and decide. The motion carried.

Moderator Ayrey asked if anyone had any other non-binding business. With no other business Moderator Ayrey explained that Articles 18, 19, 20 and 21 will be voted on by ballot and adjourned the meeting at 8:40 PM until Tuesday March 3, 2009 when the polls will open at 10:00 AM until 7:00 PM.

The ballot boxes were declared open, on March 3, 2009, at 10:00 AM by Town Clerk Rose Keough and declared closed at 7:00 PM. The results follow:

Article 18. Shall the Town approve the sum of \$11,995.00 to defray the expenses of the Cemetery Maintenance Fund? (Budget amount \$11,995.00)

YES 196 NO 51 BLANK 8 SPOILED 0  
TOTAL 255

Article 19. Shall the Town approve the General Fund Budget of \$164,795.00? (Anticipated income estimated at \$14,870.00; Taxes estimated at \$149,925.00)

YES 201 NO 45 BLANK 9 SPOILED 0  
TOTAL 255

Article 20. Shall the Town approve the Highway Fund Budget of \$276,900.00? (Anticipated income estimated at \$124,638.00; Taxes estimated at \$152,262.00)

YES 200 NO 47 BLANK 8 SPOILED 0  
TOTAL 255

Article 21. To elect by Australian Ballot the following officers, as required by law:

Auditor, for 3 years		Cemetery Commissioner, for 2 years	
Write In Edward Toth	14*	Write In James Ennis	4
Write In – Others	11	Write In – Others	14
Blank	230	Blank	236
Spoiled	0	Spoiled	1
Total	255	Total	255

Cemetery Commissioner, for 3 years		Delinquent Tax Collector, for 1 year	
Write In James Ennis	3	KATHLEEN C. MORSE	176*
Write In – Others	11	Write In Kelly Dickie	38
Blank	240	Write In – Others	5
Spoiled	1	Blank	35
Total	255	Spoiled	1
		Total	255

First Constable, for 1 year		Second Constable, for 1 year	
D. KELLEY	64	RENEE TOBIN	162*
JESSE STONE	127*	Write In – Others	2
Write In – Others	1	Blank	91
Blank	61	Spoiled	0
Spoiled	2	Total	255
Total	255		

Lister, for 3 years		Selectman, for 1 year (vote for two)	
PETER R. VAN VLECK	201*	WILLIAM COULTER	88
Write In – Others	1	JAMES ENNIS	154*
Blank	53	WEILAND A. ROSS	92*
Spoiled	0	GARY WELLER	82
Total	255	Write In – Others	4
		Blank	86
		Spoiled	4
		Total	510

Selectman, for 3 years	
DOROTHY CONKLIN	194*
Write In – Others	6
Blank	55
Spoiled	0
Total	255

Town Agent, for 1 year	
Write In – Peter Van Vleck	3
Write In – Others	8
Blank	244
Spoiled	0
Total	255

Town Grand Juror, for 1 year	
Write In – Others	5
Blank	250
Spoiled	0
Total	255

Town Moderator, for 1 year	
SALLY AYREY	204*
Write In – Others	1
Blank	50
Spoiled	0
Total	255

The meeting was adjourned after announcing the results. (\*denotes elected)

Respectfully submitted,

Rose M. Keough, Sunderland Town Clerk