

**TOWN OF CHARLOTTE
MARCH TOWN MEETING
MARCH 3, 2015**

APPROVED

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lane Morrison, Chair; Ellie Russell, Charles Russell, Matt Krasnow, Fritz Tegatz.

ADMINISTRATION: Dean Bloch, Town Administrator.

MODERATOR: Jerry Schwarz.

Jerry Schwarz, Moderator, called the 2015 March Town Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Article 1: To hear the reports of the Town officers and to act upon the same.

MOTION by Teena Flood, seconded by Craig Reynolds, to hear the reports of the Town officers and to act upon the same.

VOTE on Article 1: carried unanimously by voice vote.

Article 2: Will the Town vote to have Property Taxes payable on or before November 16, 2015 and to have payments made to the Town Treasurer under 32 VSA § 4773?

MOTION by Teena Flood, seconded by Craig Reynolds, to have Property Taxes payable on or before November 16, 2015 and to have payments made to the Town Treasurer under 32 VSA § 4773.

VOTE on Article 2: carried unanimously by voice vote.

Article 3: Will the Town adopt the Selectboard's budget of \$3,459,425 for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 of which an anticipated sum of \$1,570,941 shall be raised by taxes and an anticipated sum of \$1,888,484 will be raised by non-tax revenues?

MOTION by Teena Flood, seconded by Craig Reynolds, to adopt the Selectboard's budget of \$3,459,425 for the fiscal year July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 of which an anticipated sum of \$1,570,941 shall be raised by taxes and an anticipated sum of \$1,888,484 will be raised by non-tax revenues.

VOTE on Article 3: carried unanimously by voice vote.

Article 4: Will the Town vote to create a reserve fund pursuant to 24 VSA § 2804(a) ("Highway Capital Reserve Fund") for the purpose of providing funds for capital highway, bridge and highway drainage projects costing greater than \$5,000?

MOTION by Teena Flood, seconded by Craig Reynolds, to create a reserve fund pursuant to 24 VSA § 2804(a) ("Highway Capital Reserve Fund") for the purpose of providing funds for capital highway, bridge and highway drainage projects costing greater than \$5,000.

VOTE on Article 4: carried unanimously by voice vote.

Article 5: Will the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to deposit \$72,500 from the Highway Fund and any unexpended monies in the Bridge Reconstruction account into the Highway Capital Reserve Fund?

MOTION by Teena Flood, seconded by Craig Reynolds, to authorize the Selectboard to deposit \$72,500 from the Highway Fund and any unexpended monies in the Bridge Reconstruction account into the Highway Capital Reserve Fund.

VOTE on Article 5: carried unanimously by voice vote.

Article 6: Shall the Selectboard explore the adoption of a legislative charter for the Town of Charlotte that would authorize the Town to vote its budget by Australian ballot at a date not sooner than five weeks after the voters have advised the Selectboard at the annual Town Meeting of any desired changes to the proposed town budget? (Advisory Article)

MOTION by Teena Flood, seconded by Craig Reynolds, to approve an Advisory Article that the Selectboard shall explore the adoption of a legislative charter for the Town of Charlotte that would authorize the Town to vote its budget by Australian ballot at a date not sooner than five weeks after the voters have advised the Selectboard at the annual Town Meeting of any desired changes to the proposed town budget.

1ST AMENDMENT by Jim Donovan, and seconded, to change the wording to read "...Australian ballot at a subsequent date no later than five weeks...".

A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT by Teena Flood to change the word "advised" to read "binding" was not accepted by Jim Donovan.

2ND AMENDMENT by Teena Flood and seconded, to change the word "advised" to "bound", and to delete "...of any desired changes to the proposed town budget".
VOTE on the 2ND Amendment: carried unanimously by voice vote.

AMENDMENT TO THE 1ST AMENDMENT by Michael Russell, and seconded, to change the wording to read "to approve an Advisory Article that the Selectboard shall explore the adoption of a legislative charter for the Town of Charlotte that would authorize the Town to vote its budget by Australian ballot at a subsequent date as soon as legally permissible after the voters have bound the Selectboard at the annual Town Meeting."

VOTE on the AMENDMENT TO THE 1ST AMENDMENT: carried unanimously by voice vote.

VOTE by paper ballot on Article 6 as amended: carried 124 ayes, 51 nays.

Article 7: To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting.
MOTION by John Howe, seconded by Sylvia Knight, to approve an Advisor Article that advises the governor and the legislative assembly to fully fund the Community High School of Vermont at its current 2015 level and that all Community High School of Vermont campuses remain open.

MOTION by Vince Crockenberg, seconded by Robert Mesaros, to table the motion regarding the Community High School of Vermont.

VOTE to TABLE: failed by voice vote.

VOTE on the ADVISORY MOTION: carried by voice vote.

MOTION made and seconded to adjourn the 2015 March Town Meeting carried by voice vote.

The 2015 March Town Meeting was adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted, Kathlyn Furr, Recording Secretary.