

**TOWN OF LYNDON
MINUTES OF
2006 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

The 216th Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Lyndon was held as warned at the Lyndon Town School Gymnasium on Tuesday, March 7, 2006. Moderator Norman Messier gaveled the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Mr. Messier thanked the Lyndon Town School stage band for providing music before the meeting and asked Cub Scout Pack #738 to present the Colors. The Cub Scouts led the assembly of 187 people in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Messier offered an invocation for Town Meeting and a moment of silence was observed for those residents having passed away during the year. The Selectboard read a resolution that the Board recently adopted thanking those men and women in the armed services for their service to Vermont and to the United States.

Our local representatives to the Vermont Legislature, Cola Hudson and Richard Lawrence, addressed the assembly on activity in the House of Representatives this legislative session.

Mr. Messier introduced the Selectboard and the Town Clerk. He then reviewed the procedures, Robert's Rules of Order, to be followed during the meeting. Lyndon Town School Student Council members (Hannah Ruede, Brittiany Smith, Alyssa Shatney, Wil Linkovitch, Danielle Townsend, Kayla Weisinger, and Carla Hunter) were thanked for running the cordless microphone during the meeting. Municipal Administrator Arthur Sanborn, who is not a resident of Lyndon, was given permission to speak during the meeting. The reading of the warning was dispensed with.

Article 1. Shall the voters of the Town of Lyndon authorize the Selectboard to borrow for Town expenses not to exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in anticipation of taxes and to execute and deliver the note or notes therefore?

Motion made by Pat Jauch, seconded by David Cobb, to adopt Article 1. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 2. Shall the voters of the Town of Lyndon authorize the Selectboard to borrow money for the operation of the Wastewater Department not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in anticipation of revenues and to execute and deliver the note or notes therefore?

Motion made by Lorraine Matteis, seconded by Sue Teske, to adopt Article 2. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 3. Shall the voters of the Town of Lyndon authorize the Selectboard to set charges by residential unit to defray the cost of sanitation service for the period January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006, and to set the date of collection of same?

Motion made by Pat Jauch, seconded by Sue Teske, to adopt Article 3. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 4. Shall the Town of Lyndon approve the following requests for appropriations, such requests totaling \$35,023.16? (These organizations are requesting the same or lesser funding from the Town of Lyndon for 2006).

- A. \$250 to the American Legion Post #30 to purchase flags to mark and decorate graves of deceased veterans on Memorial Day.
- B. \$4,875 to assist the Area Agency on Aging for Northeastern Vermont in providing services to senior citizens in the ensuing year.
- C. \$600 to the Lyndonville Military Band.
- D. \$500 to Lyndonville Youth Baseball/ Softball.
- E. \$1,500 to the Lyndon Area Senior Action Center, Inc.
- F. \$5,720 to Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc., to assist in maintaining services in mental health, mental retardation, family counseling, services to children and the elderly, substance treatment, and 24-hour emergency services.
- G. \$2,000 to Northeast Kingdom Youth Services.
- H. \$2,500 to Umbrella, Inc. to serve victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children, families seeking childcare, and child care providers.
- I. \$250 to support Vermont Center for Independent Living's programs and services to people with disabilities.
- J. \$2,288.16 to the Northeastern Vermont Development Association for planning, development, promoting and publicizing the resources of Caledonia, Essex and Orleans counties with other towns in the three counties.
- K. \$600 for support of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP).
- L. \$7,500 to the Village Improvement Society (VIS) towards operating and maintenance of the pool at Powers Park.
- M. \$200 to the Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, Inc.
- N. \$1,000 to Catamount Arts.
- O. \$3,240 for the operation of the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium during the ensuing year, in exchange for free unlimited general admission to the Museum for all Lyndon residents.
- P. \$2,000 to the Riverside Life Enrichment Center/Adult Day Health Services to be used in providing services to elders and disabled adults.

Motion made by David Cobb, seconded by Cathy Boykin, to adopt Article 4. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 5. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$9,500 to the Caledonia Home Health Care and Hospice to be used in providing health care services?

Motion made by John Downs, seconded by Sue Teske, to adopt Article 5. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 6. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$3,000 to the Darling Inn Senior Meal Site, Inc.?

Motion made by Edson Birchard, seconded by Sherm Laughton, to adopt Article 6. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 7. Shall the Town of Lyndon appropriate \$6,440.63 to Rural Community Transportation?

Motion made by Cathy Boykin, seconded by John Downs, to adopt Article 7. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 8. Shall the voters of the Town of Lyndon vote to adopt the proposed General Fund budget for the ensuing year? (NOTE: Total General Fund budget is subject to increase by amounts approved on previous special appropriations.)

Motion made by Pat Jauch, seconded by Sherm Laughton, to adopt Article 8 in the amount of \$2,092,755.79. Selectboard members Martha Feltus and Robert Elmes gave an overview of the proposed 2006 budget. Animal Control Officer Cindy Cady received applause for her hard work in raising nearly \$60,000 for the new dog pound and to the Lawrence family for providing a location for the new facility. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 9. Shall the voters of the Town of Lyndon vote to assess a general Town tax in an amount sufficient to support the adopted budget, including any special appropriation articles approved by voters?

Motion made by Pat Jauch, seconded by Page Dame, to adopt Article 9. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 10. Shall the voters of the Town of Lyndon vote to authorize the Selectboard to determine the tax rate necessary to raise the approved assessment based on the 2006 Grand List?

Motion made by David Stahler, seconded by Sue Teske, to adopt Article 10. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 11. Shall the voters of the Town of Lyndon vote that taxpayers pay real and personal taxes to the Treasurer on or before 4:30 PM on Friday, November 3, 2006, with delinquent taxes having interest charges of one percent per month for the first three months, where after interest rates will be one and one-half percent per month, and an eight percent late penalty charged against them from the due date of November 3, 2006, at 4:30 PM?

Motion made by David Cobb, seconded by Sue Teske, to adopt Article 11. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 12. Australian balloting for election of officers and the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District budget. (Results reported at the end of these minutes.)

Article 13. Do the voters of the Town of Lyndon desire to transact any other proper business?

Steve Pitman asked that the entities seeking special appropriations include financial statements and detailed information regarding where their funding comes from with their requests.

John Downs spoke of the merger issue and thanked Town Agent Robert Gensburg for offering to do the merger work for the Town at no charge.

Martha Feltus gave an overview of the work performed by the Merger Committee and reviewed the committee's findings. Mrs. Feltus answered questions from the assembly. Dick Boera asked the Selectboard to move forward with the plan of merger. Mr. Boera's comments were met with applause from the assembly. Dennis Sweet spoke of the possibility for divisiveness between the two governing boards (Selectpersons and Trustees) as they are now and as the Town continues to grow and that a merger would bring the community back together as one. Mr. Boera asked for a vote of the assembly to encourage the Selectboard to proceed with the plan of merger. The nonbinding vote was approved by voice vote.

There being no further business, motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by Sherm Laughton, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried in the affirmative by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM.

**TOWN OF LYNDON
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2006 ANNUAL TOWN HIGHWAY DISTRICT MEETING**

The Annual Town Highway District Meeting was gaveled to order at 12:30 PM.

Article 14. Shall the voters of the Town Highway District vote to adopt the proposed budget for the highway expenses for the ensuing year?

Motion made by Tim Sturm, seconded by Pat Jauch, to adopt Article 14 in the amount of \$1,273,061. Selectboard member Bruce James reviewed the proposed budget. There being no further discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 15. Shall the voters of the Town Highway District vote to assess a Town Highway tax in an amount sufficient to support the adopted budget for the ensuing year?

Motion made by David Cobb, seconded by Sue Teske, to adopt Article 15. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 16. Shall the voters of the Town Highway District vote to authorize the Selectboard to determine the rate necessary to raise said assessment on the 2006 Highway Grand List?

Motion made by Pat Jauch, seconded by David Stahler, to adopt Article 16. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 17. Shall the voters of the Town Highway District vote that taxpayers pay their Town Highway taxes to the Treasurer on or before 4:30 PM on Friday, November 3, 2006, with delinquent taxes having interest charges of one percent per month for the first three months, where after interest rates will be one and one-half percent per month, and an eight percent late penalty charged against them from the due date of November 3, 2006, at 4:30 PM?

Motion made by Pat Jauch, seconded by David Cobb, to adopt Article 17. There being no discussion, the article carried in the affirmative by voice vote.

Article 18. Do the voters of the Town Highway District desire to transact any other proper business?

Martha Feltus answered Don Gardner's questions regarding the work done by the merger committee.

There being no further business, motion made by Sue Teske, seconded by David Cobb, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried in the affirmative by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 12:42 PM.