

TOWN OF PANTON
Minutes of Annual Town Meeting
March 4, 2006
UNAPPROVED

The annual meeting of the Town of Panton was called to order at 10:01 a.m. Saturday, March 7, 2006, by Bill Clark who also led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ARTICLE 1. To elect a Moderator for the year ensuing. Ann Sullivan nominated Bill Clark to serve as Moderator. Marlene Bedard moved that nominations cease and the Clerk cast one ballot for Bill Clark. So voted by voice vote.

ARTICLE 2. To elect all Town Officers as required by law.

Town Clerk for a term of (3) three years. Ann Russett nominated Susan Torrey. Marlene Bedard moved, seconded by Steve Hofmann. So voted by voice vote.

Select person for a term of (3) three years. Rejean LaFleche was nominated by Chris Cook, seconded by Dean Jackson. Ron Atkins was nominated by Mike Donnelly seconded by Dennis Torrey. The Moderator called for a paper ballot vote and the results were Rejean LaFleche 17 votes and Ron Atkins 37 votes.

Lister for a term of (3) three years. Joan Burt was elected Lister by the Clerk casting one ballot as moved, seconded and voted by voice vote.

Auditor for a term of (3) three years. Incumbent Marlene Bedard declined re-election and explained that there are two vacancies. Dennis Mueller was nominated by Joe Kuhn to fill the two (2) year vacancy, moved, seconded and voted by voice vote. Pam Preston was nominated by Bob Moulton to fill the (3) three term. Dean Jackson moved, Mike Donnelly seconded. So voted by voice vote.

Constable/Dog Warden for a term of (1) one year. Hilton (Mickey) Billings was elected Constable/Dog Warden by the Clerk casting one ballot as moved, seconded and voted by voice vote.

Delinquent Tax Collector for a term of (1) one year. Barbara Fleming was nominated by Dean Jackson. Ella Hoague was nominated by Guy Hoague. The Moderator called for a paper ballot vote and the results were Barbara Fleming 40 votes and Ella Hoague 10 votes. So voted.

Town Grand Juror for a term of (1) one year. Lars Hubbard was elected Town Grand Juror by the Clerk casting one ballot as moved, seconded and voted by voice vote.

Town Agent for a term of (1) one year. Lynn Donnelly was elected Town Agent by the Clerk casting one ballot as moved, seconded and voted by voice vote.

ARTICLE 3. To elect a Water Commissioner for a term of three years to the Board of the Vergennes-Panton Water District. David Philbrook was elected Water Commissioner by the Clerk casting one ballot as moved, seconded and voted by voice vote.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town of Panton will accept and adopt the Town Officers report. Discussion of including details of the organizations requesting contributions in the next town report. The Town Officer's Report was accepted by voice vote.

ARTICLE 5. To approve a budget to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town of Panton for the 12 month fiscal year and to authorize the Selectboard to set a tax rate sufficient to provide same. Ron Atkins referred voters to pages 34 through 37 of the town report. The budget was accepted and the Selectboard was authorized to set a tax rate by voice vote.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town of Panton will vote to collect the taxes through the Treasurer as provided by law. Motion passed by voice vote

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town of Panton will authorize the Selectboard to borrow in Anticipation of taxes.

Motion passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town of Panton will authorize the purchase of a truck, truck bed, wing and plow at a price not to exceed \$150,000? Voted to approve the article and to amend to include using the capital equipment fund. So voted by voice vote.

Motion to allow non-voters speak was moved, seconded and voted by voice vote.

ARTICLE 9 through 30. Requests for funding from Town funds were voted by paper ballot on Tuesday, March 7, 2006. Below are the results of the vote:

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Addison County Community Action	\$ 500.00	58	63
Addison County Counseling Service	450.00	62	61
Addison County Home Health & Hospice	773.00	86	38
Addison County Parent Child	800.00	60	63
Addison County Transit Resources	200.00	66	58
American Legion	80.00	71	53
American Red Cross	250.00	62	62
Bixby Library	6,300.00	79	46
Boys & Girls Club	700.00	74	48
Champlain Valley Area on Aging	400.00	72	49
Elderly Services	400.00	81	44
George D. Aiken Resource	100.00	37	85
Graham Emergency Shelter	450.00	64	60
Green-Up Vermont	50.00	83	40
Hospice Volunteer Services	275.00	75	49
Open Door Clinic	200.00	65	58
Otter Creek Natural Resources	66.44	55	69
RSVP	150.00	47	75
Vergennes Rescue Squad	2,700.00	97	27
Vermont Adult Learning	210.00	50	72
Vermont Center for Independent Living	75.00	63	59
Women Safe	300.00	69	53

ARTICLE 31. This is a non-binding Article: Shall the voters authorize an increase in the veteran's tax exemption for real property located in the Town of Panton from \$10,000 to \$20,000 of assessed value, first applicable to the Grand List of 2006, as provided for in Title 32, Vermont Statutes Annotated?

Moved, seconded and voted by voice vote to authorize the increase.

ARTICLE 32. This is a non-binding Article: Shall the voters of the Town of Panton instruct the Governor and our State Representatives and Senators to oppose:

- any use of the State Education Fund for purposes that are outside the law's original intent to "make payments to school districts and supervisory unions for the support of education",
- the shifting of existing State General Fund expense obligations to the Education Fund; and
- the reduction of any existing State General Fund revenue support to the Education Fund?

Moved, seconded and voted by voice vote to approve Article 32.

ARTICLE 33. To transact any other business which may legally come before the town.

Discussion on changing the town meeting from Saturday to Tuesday. Ron Atkins asked that the voters try it one more year.

Discussion on contributions not being by paper ballot. Show of hands indicated half the voters in favor and half not in favor.

State Representatives Connie Houston and Greg Clark shared information with the voters on activities occurring in the Legislature. Representative Houston informed the voters that she will not be seeking re-election.

Motion by Dr. Luginbuhl to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Steve Hofmann. So voted by voice vote.

Selectboard of Panton:

Dated: _____

Attest: _____

Susan F. Torrey
Panton Town Clerk

Dated: _____