

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Waterbury Select Board
Wednesday, January 29, 2025 | 12:00 p.m.
28 N. Main St. and via Zoom
APPROVED

Attendance: Mike Bard, Roger Clapp, Tom Leitz, Cheryl Casey

Public attendance: Lisa Walton

Zoom attendance: Ian Shea, Alyssa Johnson

CALL TO ORDER, 12:02 p.m. by Alyssa Johnson

Approval of agenda:

M. Bard moved to approve the agenda as presented but including a discussion of town budget as part of the warning item; **seconded by R. Clapp. Motion approved unanimously.**

Public comment:

No comment from the public.

Finalize warning for Town Meeting:

- T. Leitz reviewed the changes implemented after the last meeting discussion.
- On Articles 8 and 9:
 - A. Johnson noted the addition of “as opposed to a traditional floor vote,” which T. Leitz confirmed with counsel is legally-acceptable to add to the article. A. Johnson noted her personal wariness about using the word “traditional” because that word refers to many different practices in towns around VT.
 - R. Clapp said the additional phrasing does reflect what was heard from the public, and in the context of Waterbury, it lessens confusion rather than creates more. M. Bard concurred. I. Shea confirmed with T. Leitz that the word “traditional” has no legal impact by its inclusion.
- TL identified a copy error in Article 10: \$4,460,905 raised in property taxes should read \$4,460,945 (difference of \$45).
- T. Leitz noted that requests in Articles 16-26 have been adjusted which ultimately resulted in a tiny net decrease in spending on special articles by \$850. The most efficient way to account for this change in the budget at large is to increase the general fund spending by \$850 while taking that amount out of the special articles; the rest of the budget won't be impacted in any substantive way and it won't be necessary to change Article 10. He recommended that the selectboard adopt the budget with this minor adjustment.
- T. Leitz reminded the selectboard that Articles 11 and 12 present maximums, and he finds the limits of what we can borrow from the tax stabilization fund to be manageable; C. Viens and M. Bard had asked for some clarification on this point at the last meeting.

M. Bard motioned to approve the warning of the meeting of the Town of Waterbury on March 4, 2025; seconded by R. Clapp. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by R. Clapp; seconded by M. Bard. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT called by A. Johnson at 12:22 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cheryl A. Casey