

Town of Proctor Annual Meeting
March 6, 2023

Meeting was called to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
Moderator Maass called the meeting to order and opened with a reading of the ground rules.

Senator David Weeks addressed the audience with highlights from the legislative session.

Moderator Maass then read the eleven articles aloud.

Article 1: To hear and act upon the reports of the Town Officers.

Motion to approve by Brian Perkins, second by Kim Baccei, no discussion, passed by voice vote.

Article 2: Shall the Town vote the amount of \$67,000 for the Proctor Free Library for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024?

Motion to approve by Reed DeRemer, second by Brian Perkins, no discussion, passed by voice vote.

Article 3: Shall the Town vote the amount of \$17,500 for the Otter Creek Watershed Control District to provide services to suppress the mosquito and biting fly population for the period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024?

Motion to approve by Robert Curtis, second by David Weeks, no discussion, passed by voice vote.

Article 4: Shall the Town vote to become a member of the Otter Creek Watershed Insect Control District?

Motion to approve by Tom Doty, second by Brian Perkins, discussion, passed by voice vote.

Division called for vote; motion passed 42-10.

Steve Hall: Are we a member forever or can the town leave at a future date?

Motion by Davide Weeks to allow Doug Perkins chair of the Insect District to speak at the meeting. Seconded by Steve Hall, passed by voice vote.

Doug Perkins: No, not a member forever- can be warned and voted to leave the district. Must be a member for 1 year and all bills paid prior to leaving district All member towns must vote to allow withdrawal from district.

Jim McNutly: Is there an annual fee to join the district and did the selectboard price out other vendors?

Doug Perkins: The budget is not known until the fall. The town will be responsible for \$8,000.00 for four years for the buy in, in addition to the fee.

Selectboard: There are only two districts in the state – no other vendors.

Brian Perkins: Who are the members of the district?

Doug Perkins: Salisbury, Leister, Goshen, Pittsford and Brandon.

Phil Sparks: What are the benefits to selectboard members?

Doug Perkins: The town would have three members, two that can vote.

Steve Follett: Is there a requirement about notification prior to spraying?

Doug Perkins: Notices are published in the Rutland Herald prior to spraying season.

Notices are published on the District website six hours prior to spraying.

Article 5: Shall the Town vote the amount \$499,692 for the maintenance and repairing of town highways for the period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024?

Motion to approve by Brian Perkins, second by Robert Curtis, discussion, passed by voice vote.

Steve Hall: What roads will be paved?

Michael Ramsey: The town is applying for a Class II highway grant for West Street. If that is not received North Street going down would be paved.

Brian Perkins: It would be nice to see the percentage change for Article 5 & 6 from year to year.

Article 6: Shall the Town vote the amount of \$994,281 for current expenses of the Town for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024?

Motion to approve by Reed DeRemer, second by Carol Protivansky, discussion, passed by voice vote.

John Zawistoski: Would the pass/fail of Articles 9 & 10 have any impact on this article?

Selectboard: No.

Michael Ramsey: The \$107,000 is not part of the operating budget and the \$4,000 would move to the reserve fund if not expended during the year.

Article 7: Shall the Town vote to collect its taxes on real and personal property in four installments on August 10, November 10, February 10 and May 10 for the period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 and shall each installment bear interest at the maximum rate as provided by law?

Motion to approve by Marie Smith, second by Linda Doty, no discussion, passed by voice vote.

Article 8: Shall the Town vote to establish a reserve fund to be called the Forest Management reserve fund to be used to construct logging roads in town owned forest in accordance with 24 V.S.A. 2804?

Motion to approve by Reed DeRemer, second by David Weeks, discussion, passed by voice vote.

Tommy Grace: Cost of roads and where will the roads be located?

Selectboard: The road will be located to reach the stands that currently need to be harvested.

Judy Taranovich: What is the projected income from the harvest?

Selectboard: Projected at \$200,000 gross.

Michael Ramsey: The town has a Forest Management Plan that dictates the harvest schedule. Massive infrastructure is required to get to the lumber. Concerned that a logger will not want to provide the upgrades, that is the purpose of this fund.

David Weeks: When is the next harvest?

Michael Ramsey: we need to harvest this year, would need to look at management plan for next harvest schedule.

Article 9: Shall the Town vote to deposit \$107,312 from the Town Hall Building Fund to fund the Forest Management Reserve Fund?

Motion to approve by Brian Perkins, second by Carol Protivansky, discussion, passed by voice vote.

John Zawistoski: How often do we log?

Selectboard: Every 5-8 years based on management plan.

Jim McNulty: Is this surplus money or do you rely on it to build the budget?

Selectboard: Surplus.

Tommy Grace: Will the road work go out to bid?

Selectboard: Yes.

John Zawistoski: Motion to amend Article 9 move \$35,000 to the Forest Management Reserve Fund.

Seconded by David Weeks, discussion, amendment fails by voice vote.

Phil Sparks: Suggest the Selectboard does a feasibility study.

Tom Doty: Currently a year behind, does not want the town to incur any negative repercussions from not harvesting.

David Weeks: Is the following years budget dependent on the harvest?

Selectboard: No.

Brian Perkins: Would the difference remain in the town Hall Reserve Fund?

Selectboard: Yes.

Tommy Grace: Suggests the Selectboard speak to the loggers about options to reach the stand, as well as abutting property owners.

Article 10: Shall the Town vote to establish a reserve fund to be called the Capital Improvements and Planning Reserve Fund to be used for federal, state and regional grant matching in accordance with 18 V.S.A. 2804?

Motion to approve by Tom Doty, second by Dale Christie, discussion, passed by voice vote.

Article 11: Shall the Town vote to take its burial grounds out of the charge of the Board of Cemetery Commissioners and place the same under the charge of the Selectboard in accordance with 18 V.S.A. 5381?

Motion to approve by Reed DeRemer, second by Dale Christie, discussion, passed by voice vote.

Question: What is the rationale for the change?

Selectboard: There are no Cemetery Commissioners.

Motion by Marie Smith, second by Brian Perkins, passed by voice vote- to recess the meeting until Tuesday March 7, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the Proctor Junior-Senior High School to vote by Australian ballot on the following matter to wit:

Article 1: To elect a moderator for the ensuing year.

Article 2: To elect a Selectboard member for the term of three (3) years.

Article 3: To elect a Selectboard member for the term of two (2) years.

Article 4: To elect a School Board member for the Quarry Valley Unified Union School District for the term of three (3) years.

Article 5: To elect a Town Treasurer for the term of three (3) years.

Article 6: To elect a Town Clerk for the term of three (3) years.

Respectfully submitted



Lisa Miser

I accept the minutes of the Town of Proctor Annual Meeting as written:



Judy Frazier, Proctor Selectboard Chair



Andy Maass, Town Moderator