

Town of Proctor Annual Meeting
March 4, 2024

Moderator Maass welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked all to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was called for Ben Curtis.

Proctor Fire Department members were recognized and thanked for their service. The PFD celebrated its 125th anniversary this fall.

Moderator Maass called the meeting to order and opened with a reading of the ground rules.

Motion by Ray Ault to allow 3 minutes per person to speak on an issue. Second by Valinda Taylor, unanimously approved.

Senator David Weeks and Representative Butch Shaw addressed the audience with highlights from the legislative session.

Moderator Maass then read the ten articles aloud.

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

The Town Report was provided to all residents, prior to the meeting. No additional reports.

Article 2: Shall the Town vote the amount of \$69,000 for the Proctor Free Library for the period of July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025?

Motion to approve by Dick Horner, second by Carol Ault, no discussion, passed by voice vote.

Article 3: Shall the Town vote the amount \$488,740 for the maintenance and repairing of town highways for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025?

Motion to approve by Ray Ault, second by Judy Taranovich, no discussion, passed by voice vote.

Article 4: Shall the Town vote the amount of \$1,106,065 for current expenses of the Town for the period of July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025?

Motion to approve by Dick Horner, second by Vicky Young, no discussion, passed by voice vote.

Article 5: Shall the Town vote to collect its taxes on real and personal property in four installments on August 15, November 15, February 15 and May 15 for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 and shall each installment bear interest at the maximum rate as provided by law?

Motion to approve by Bob Young, second by Ray Ault, no discussion, passed by voice vote.

Article 6: Shall the Town vote to eliminate the Forest Management reserve fund which was to be used to construct logging roads in town owned forests in accordance with 24 V.S.A. 2804?

Motion to approve by Dick Horner, second by Dan Varney, discussion, passed by voice vote.

Judy Taranovich: Seeking clarification on the article

Selectboard: Road building will be part of the logging contract going forward, along with harvesting the Florence Road parcel for a revenue source if needed for the road.

Valinda Taylor: Is there an oversight committee that reviews the contract and assures it is followed properly?

Selectboard: That is the role of the selectboard along with the forester.

Mary Fregosi: This is the recommendation of your forester to dissolve this fund?

Selectboard: Yes. Felt it would be a better price to include in the contract.

Town Manager: This fund was created last year, with the thought that the town would need to pay to put in the road prior to harvest. Currently, we will harvest Florence Road parcel first, which will be a revenue source if needed. The Chittenden Watershed harvest goes into the water

department. This will allow money that was allocated for the town office to go back for its original purpose.

Tommy Grace: Will this be put out to bid?

Town Manager: Yes

Article 7: Shall the Town vote to redeposit \$107,312 from the Forest Management Reserve Fund to fund Town Hall Building Fund?

Motion to approve by Dave Weeks, second by Judy Taranovich, discussion, passed by voice vote.

Dan Kearny: What do we need this money for at the town office, as we just went through a renovation?

Selectboard: The renovations primarily took place down stairs. There are improvements to be made upstairs.

Article 8: Shall the Town approve a Proctor Asset Fund for planning, assessment, wages, acquisitions or improvements of assets that directly benefit the residents of Proctor?

Motion to approve by Judy Taranovich, second by Bob Young, discussion, passed by voice vote.

Ray Ault: Can you provide some examples of assets?

Town Manager: We used the guidance of VLCT, in allocating ARPA funds so they would not be lost. These funds will be held in the Fund and allocated as deemed necessary over the following years.

Article 9: Shall the Town approve transferring Fiscal Year 2024 surplus up to \$316,787.03 resulting from a one-time unanticipated revenue to the Asset Fund?

Motion to approve by Vicky Young, second by Ray Ault, discussion, passed by voice vote.

Dick Horner: Is the surplus a result of ARPA funds?

Town Manager: Yes, the balance.

Article 10: To transact any other non-binding business that legally may come before the meeting at this time.

Dan Kearny: Why isn't the full audit report in the Town Report?

Selectboard: A full audit report is available at the Town Office. They will review for next year's town report.

Judy Taranovich: West Proctor Road has been downgraded to a Class 3 road which prohibits her from legally having work trucks travel West Proctor Road.

Selectboard: We will look into this change.

Tommy Grace: Future town reports should honor longtime town employees.

Anne Zawistoski: What is the status of the Field Street property purchased by the town?

Town Manager: The town purchased at a tax sale as there were no bids. The town has since sold the property.

Motion by Ray Ault, second by Dick Horner, passed by voice vote- to recess the meeting until Tuesday March 5, 2024 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 Collector of Delinquent Taxes for the term of three (3) years.

Article 5: To elect a School Board member for the Quarry Valley Unified Union School District for the term of three (3) years.

Respectfully submitted

Lisa Miser

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

Celia Lisananti, Town Clerk

Andy Maass, Town Moderator

