

Townshend School District - Annual Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2012

The legal voters of the Town of Townshend, in the County of Windham and the State of Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at 1:00 P.M. in the Town Hall in said Town of Townshend on the first Tuesday, March 6th, 2012, to transact the following business and act upon the following articles: viz:

Article 1. To elect a Moderator for a term of one year.

Craig Hunt nominated David Liebow for Moderator for a one year term. With no further nominations made, the nominations were closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for David Liebow as moderator. Motion carries by voice vote.

Article 2. To accept the reports of the School Directors as presented in the July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011 Auditors' Report.

Craig Hunt moved to accept the July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011 School Directors' Report. Michael Chase seconded the motion. No discussion. The motion carries by voice vote.

Article 3. To elect School Directors for the following terms:

One (1) - three year term - until March 2015

Paul Jerz nominated Al Claussen for a three year term on the Townshend School Board. With no further nominations made, the nominations were closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Al Claussen. The motion carries by voice vote.

One (1) - one year terms - until March 2013

Tammy Claussen nominated Kimberly Liebow for a one year seat on the Townshend School Board. With no further nominations made, the nominations were closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Kimberly Liebow. The motion carries by voice vote.

One (1) - one year terms - until March 2013

Ryan Hockertlotz nominated Holly Hockertlotz for a one year seat on the Townshend School Board. April Chase nominated Brian Schmidt for a one year seat on the Townshend School Board. Eighty Two (82) votes were cast, forty two (42) needed to win. Holly Hockertlotz received 21 Brian Schmidt received 61, zero were spoiled. Brian Schmidt was elected to a one year seat on the Townshend School Board.

One (1) - three year term - Leland & Gray School Director until March 2015

Kit Martin nominated Art Monette for a three year seat on the Leland and Gray Board of Directors. Mr. Monette respectfully declined.

Art Monette nominated Mike Dolan for a three year seat on the Leland and Gray Board of Directors.

Ryan Hockertlotz nominated Craig Hunt for a three year seat on the Leland and Gray Board of Directors. Mr. Hunt respectfully declined.

Ryan Hockertlotz nominated Kristina Wright for a three year seat on the Leland and Gray Board of Directors. Ms. Wright respectfully declined.

With no further nominations made, the nominations were closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Mike Dolan. The motion carries by voice vote.

Article 4. To elect a School District Treasurer for a term of one year.

Craig Hunt nominated Anita Bean as School District Treasurer for a term of one year. With no further nominations made, the nominations were closed and the Clerk cast one ballot for Anita Bean. The motion carries by voice vote.

Article 5. To see what salaries the Townshend School District will approve for Town School District Officers.

Treasurer	\$1,790.00
School Directors	\$300 ea. \$1,500 total

Craig Hunt moved to pay the School District Treasurer \$1,790.00 and the Townshend School Directors \$300 each (\$1,500 total). Kristine Kuch seconded the motion. No discussion and the motion carries by voice vote.

Article 6. To see if the Townshend School District will approve to raise \$10,000.00 by taxation for deposit into the School Capital Expenditures Fund.

David Dezendorf moved to pass over the article. Craig Hunt seconded the motion. Mr. Dezendorf explained the Townshend School Board has put no money in the budget to cover this article this year. The motion carries by voice vote.

Article 7. To see if the Townshend School District will approve \$1,310,501.00 for the running expenses and liabilities of the School.

Kathy Hege moved for the Townshend School District to approve \$1,310,501.00 for the running expenses and liabilities of the School. Ryan Hockertlotz seconded the motion. No discussion, the motion carries by voice vote.

Article 8. Shall the voters of the Townshend School District authorize the School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of revenue?

Craig Hunt moved to authorize the Townshend School Directors to borrow money in anticipation of revenue. Ryan Hockertlotz seconded the motion. No discussion, the motion carries by voice vote.

Article 9. Shall the voters of the Townshend School District authorize the School Directors to spend “unanticipated” funds such as grants or gifts that may be received by the District for school purposes?

Ryan Hockertlotz moved to authorize the Townshend School District directors to spend unanticipated funds for school purposes. Greg Morrow seconded the motion. No discussion, the motion carries by voice vote.

Article 10. To set the date and time of the Annual Meeting of the Townshend School District for the First Tuesday of March in the year of 2013 at 1:00pm.

Greg Morrow moved to set the date and time of the Townshend School District Annual Meeting for the First Tuesday of March in 2013 at 1:00 p.m. Kristine Kuch seconded the motion.

Discussion: Rick Hege reminded the Townshend School Board of the past practice to rotate which Annual Meeting started first. Due to the wording of the article in the warning, no changes could be made to the start time. Mr. Hege requested the article for next year to read “To determine the date and time of the Annual Meeting of the Townshend School District”. The motion carries by voice vote.

Article 11. To transact any other non-binding business to properly come before this meeting.

Rick Hege asked the School Board to explain the Rural Education District (R.E.D.) Committee and the proposal to close all elementary schools except Newbrook.

Joe Winrich a member of the R.E.D. Committee from Townshend, explained the working of the R.E.D. Committee, and a proposal to build a new school in the Rt 30 / Rt 100 area to reduce school expenses yet increase programs for students. The R.E.D. Committee is considering elimination of the School Districts of Brookline, Jamaica, Leland and Gray, Newfane, Townshend, and Windham. Cost reduction would be accomplished in part through a tax reduction for the communities agreeing to consolidate their school districts. The R.E.D. Committee is still early in its discussion and is looking at many proposals, including one High School and two elementary schools or one High School and one elementary school. The next meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2012 in the library at Leland and Gray UHS at 7:00 p.m.

David Dezendorf, School Board R.E.D. Committee member, discussed how the R.E.D. Committee is looking at increasing student benefits, being fiscally responsible, and accommodating reductions in class size. Mr. Dezendorf briefly explained how each of the R.E.D. School Boards now have three votes at WCSU meetings (6 Boards for 18 total votes). But if the current statute were in place, the R.E.D. would only have three votes after consolidation, causing the power within WCSU to shift.

Marilee Atley asked if the R.E.D. Committee had a state required time frame for the actions. Mr. Winrich stated they are under no time frame and were taking their time to properly consider all actions and implications.

Ryan Hockertlotz requested the School Board to investigate the use of the Townshend Town Library by the school and thereby save the costs associated with a school librarian.

Kristine Kuch explained where the school had used the Town Library in the past, but stopped the practice because of state requirements.

Mr. Hockertlotz, informed the School Board that the Town of Jamaica had closed their school library and is using the Jamaica Town Library instead.

Joe Winrich moved to adjourn. Kristine Kuch seconded the motion. The motion carries at 1:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Dezendorf – Assistant Clerk

Beth Cutts - School District Clerk

David Liebow – Moderator

Joseph Daigneault - Justice of the Peace