

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
JULY 19, 2018

The legal voters of the Town of Townshend are hereby notified and WARNED to meet at the Town Hall in Townshend, Vermont, on Thursday, July 19, 2018, at 7:00 P.M. to act on the following articles, viz:

David gave a brief explanation as to the procedures that will be followed during the Meeting.

He then introduced the Select Board and the town's Attorney, Richard Carroll.

ARTICLE I. Shall the Town of Townshend conduct a town wide study as to the feasibility of implementing zoning bylaws in the Town of Townshend?

So moved by Craig Hunt and seconded by Will Bissonette.

Discussion ensued: Several towns people spoke to the crowd regarding opposition to zoning as well as the effect it would have on the economy and the unnecessary demands that would be made on the local people.

David made it clear that we are not voting on Zoning tonight.

Andrew Snelling also stated that we are only voting on the feasibility of implementing zoning bylaws. He also stated that there are different types of zoning and grants may be accessible.

Skip Woodruff spoke of previous discussion about zoning and the outcome was that the towns people did not want it. He was a Zoning Administrator in Jamaica. He feels zoning causes multiple problems and can be very costly.

Carol Nilges inquired as to how much the feasibility study would cost.

Kathy Hege turned the question over to the Planning Commission. Andrew Snelling said the cost would be between \$5,000.00 and \$10,000.00.

Barbara Merchant raised concern about big business take over our town. She feels that we need some sort of zoning regulations.

Roger Jasaitis, Zoning Administrator for the town of Dummerston, stated that zoning would give us some say in our town.

Andrew Snelling explained the study and what it would entail.

Terry Davison Berger would like to have some local control over what is built in our town. Partial zoning might be an option.

Skip Woodruff moved to the call the question.

No further discussion. Irvin Stowell called for paper ballot.

Total Votes: 128 Yes: 49 No: 71 Blank: 8

ARTICLE I FAILED

ARTICLE II. If so, will the Town approve un-budgeted funds to complete said study?

Motion to pass over Article II was made by Kathy Hege and seconded by Irvin Stowell passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE III. To transact any other non-binding business to properly come before said Meeting?

Discussion regarding ordinances and how they are created was discussed.

Motion was made to suspend the rules to allow Richard Carroll to speak which was passed by a two-thirds majority of the voters.

Attorney Carroll explained how Ordinances are created. Select Board may set them within the guidelines established in Statute.

No further discussion.

Motion to adjourn at 7:50 P.M. made by Irvin Stowell and seconded by Craig Hunt. Passed by voice vote.

Anita Bean, Town Clerk

Kathleen Hege, Select Board Chair

David Liebow, Moderator