

Town of Charleston
Special Town Meeting – November 8, 2018 at 6:00 pm
Charleston Town Clerk's Office

MINUTES

The Special Town Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Moderator Jean Wilson.

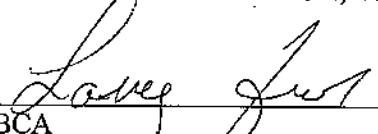
Article 1. Will the voters of Charleston vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow up to \$316,400 over a term of seven years for the purposes of (1) refinancing the balance of the Town's existing equipment loan, and (2) purchasing an urgently-needed new 6-wheel dump truck with winter equipment and extended warranty, with the initial payment due in November 2019? The result will be a total annual payment of \$49,405 for seven years, which is comparable to the current annual payment of \$42,889.47 in order to minimize impact on the Town budget. Motion by John Kellogg, second by Teri Gray. Vote: Ayes have it. Motion carried. Discussion by Selectboard: Road Foreman and Selectboard have concluded that the Town's six-wheel dump truck with over 100,000 miles needs engine work and should be replaced this winter. The new truck is an International with Cummins motor and heavier-duty specs than the current. The total price is \$172,589, but with current trade-in value of \$27,500, plus \$20,000 from the equipment fund, the balance financed is \$125,089, roughly what has been paid on the existing equipment loan. The board is reluctant to use the remaining equipment fund balance of \$85,000 because this would leave the Town short if any equipment failed. The financing plan results in a \$6,500 annual increase in the town budget. Asked if there was a replacement plan for equipment and if any of the existing winter equipment could be reused, Mr. Pepin said the one-way plow might be salvaged, but everything else is worn. Selectboard Chair Meghann Carter said the board is looking to develop an equipment replacement plan going forward, and an old loader will probably be replaced next.

2. Article 2. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

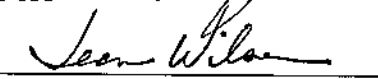
Selectboard member Larry Young suggested that once the Westmore Pit loan is paid off in two years, the Town could begin contributing an amount equal to the loan payment (approx. \$54,000) to the equipment fund in order to build the fund, and he asked for voter opinion on this. Several voters said this seemed doable for taxpayers since it would be a continuation of the amount already budgeted and not an increase.

Seeing no other business, the meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.

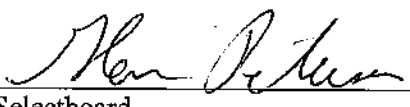
DATED AT CHARLESTON, VERMONT THIS 8th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2018



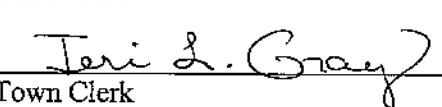
BCA



Moderator



Selectboard



Town Clerk