

Town of Danville  
Selectboard Minutes  
Public Informational Pre-Town Meeting  
March 6, 2023  
Danville Town Hall (7:00 pm)

**Board Members Present:** Ken Linsley, Janice Ouellette and Kellie Merrell

**Board Members Absent:** Eric Bach and Peter Griffin

**Others Present:** Audrey DeProspero, Keith Gadapee, Wendy Somers, David Towle, Joan Legendre, Pete Knight, Alison Low, Marvin Withers, Glenn Herrin, Clayton Cargill, Alice Despathy, Tim Ide, Sara Benion, and Bill Bailey

**Others Present Using Teams:** Don Langmaid, Debby Marrier, Bruce Melendy, S & K Boyle, Paul Anair, Kara, Matthew Choate, Nancy & Art, Libby, Valerie Giroux, Matthew Goldrick and Sharon

School Public Informational Pre-Town Meeting started at 7:00 pm by Clayton Cargill and concluded at 7:33 pm.

**Meeting called to order** by Janice Ouellette at 7:36 pm.

**1. Public Informational Pre-Town Meeting – TOWN**

**Budget**

Janice Ouellette discussed:

- Town budget decreased by \$50,000 and Highway increased by \$104,000. Overall without appropriations is \$54,452 in taxes. If all appropriations pass, it will add an additional \$49,000, a 5.9% increase.
- Inflation wiped out all carry over from last year.
- Town budget is a near bare bones budget.
- In the Highway budget there is plans for paving on Red Barn and Dole Hill. New equipment purchase is a roller for the grader to compact the gravel on the roads to help keep it from washing away. The roadside mower will be kept another year and will now be shared with Ryegate. An additional person is being added to the Highway Department as the Highway Crew are unable to take winter vacations and are on call 24/7. The summer is the busiest time of the year and that is when the Crew has to take all their vacation time.

Marvin Withers inquired about the increase in benefits and the impact on the tax rate.

Janice Ouellette noted it was a 5.9% increase.

Ken Linsley noted it was a 3.5 cents on the tax rate.

- Highway salary matrix has been added, the Highway Manual has been combined with the Personnel Policy to create a pay scale for Highway persons. This will reward the Crew for longevity, skill training and becoming proficient in equipment running. Overtime there will be a better trained work force who will want to stay and be able to have off call hours during winter months which no other surrounding town has. The Town is hoping to attract and retain employees. The employees will now be able to go to sporting events and family functions during winter months instead of being on call. The Road Crew is very hardworking and the Selectboard wanted to reward them. A similar pay scale will be developed for the Town workers as well.

Pete Knight discussed appropriations and voting method.

Glenn Herrin inquired about 2022 Australian ballot and what it would do for Town Meeting.

Ken Linsley discussed no affirmative action and recommendations from the floor.

Pete Knight inquired about page 60 in the Town Report and the list of Vet Exemptions.

Wendy Somers noted there was \$10,000 off the grand list for Veterans however paperwork needed to be completed and required to be filed with Veteran Affairs.

#### Introduction of Candidates

There are three open seats on the Selectboard. One three-year term and two one-year terms.

Alison Low introduced herself and noted she was running for the one-year term. Alison Low is on the Regional Planning Commission and interacts with Danville government as well as 50 other municipalities in the region. She appreciates Danville's values, the community and the dedication of individuals. Alison Low is on the Danville Train Station Committee and part of the Village Improvement Society.

Glenn Herrin introduced himself and noted he was running for the one-year term. Glenn Herrin is the Planning Commission Chair and the Emergency Management Coordinator. He has lived in Vermont all his life but has chosen Danville as his permanent residence.

Matt Choate introduced himself and noted he was running for the one-year term. Matt Choate has been in Danville for seven year, grew up in Barnet and St. Johnsbury. Danville is his favorite place to live. He is a Travel Nurse for Caledonia County, works for NVRH, previously worked for Calnex and served on a number of boards. He is on the Board of Civil Authority. He was asked by several persons to run for the open seat.

Janice Ouellette introduced herself and noted she was running for the three-year seat. Janice Ouellette has been on the Selectboard for one year and has worked on the following projects: Apparel Impact textile recovery bin at the Recycle Center, Garden project at the school, and combined Personnel Policy and Highway Manual. Janice Ouellette is also a volunteer at the Open Door.

#### **2. Any Other Business that legally comes before the Board**

#### **3. Adjourned at 8:04 pm.**

Minutes taken by Audrey DeProspero submitted March 7, 2023 at 9:28 am.