

**MINUTES**  
**CABOT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – MARCH 5, 2013**

Pursuant to the Warning as recorded and legally posted, the legal voters did meet at the time and place indicated and the following business was transacted:

The 225<sup>th</sup> Cabot Town Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by the Selectboard Chair, Caleb Pitkin.

Article 1 – Selectboard Chair read the Article; moved by Walter Bothfeld, Jr. and by Grant Taylor to elect a Moderator for the ensuing year. Ed Smith nominated; seconded. No further nominations. Declared nominations closed; Ed Smith elected Moderator unanimously by voice vote. Moderator began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence. Ed asked to suspend the rules in order to allow a representative not residing in Cabot to address the assembly; no objections. District Representative Kitty Toll described the current activities of the Vermont Legislature. The Moderator then made opening remarks concerning the meeting.

Article 2 – Shall the Town vote to approve the minutes of the previous Annual town Meeting of March 6, 2012? Moderator read the Article. Moved by Walter Bothfeld, Jr. and seconded. No discussion. Moderator stated the question. Article 2 adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Article 3 – To elect a Selectperson for a term of three years? Australian Ballot issue; discussion not allowed.

Article 4 – To elect a Selectperson for a term of two years? Australian Ballot issue; discussion not allowed.

Article 5 – To elect a Selectperson for a term of one year? Australian Ballot issue; discussion not allowed.

Article 6 – Shall the Town vote to hear and act upon the reports of the Town Officers? Moderator read the Article. Moved by Walter Bothfeld, Jr. and seconded. Caleb Pitkin discussed the article to approve funding for a volunteer coordinator. Sue Carpenter stated that the Town Report will not show individual amounts delinquent due to confidentiality concerns. Ben Davis, Representative from the Northeast Kingdom Solid Waste, wanted to emphasize that Article 27 does not impact the Town tax rate. Tara Rogerson reported no changes to the Town Report.

Article 7 – Shall the Town vote to pay its Real and Personal Property taxes to the Town Treasurer on or before November 21, 2013, with delinquent taxes having interest charges of one percent per month for the first three months and on an one-half per month thereafter and an eight percent penalty charged from the due date? Moderator read the Article. Moved by Walter Bothfeld, Jr. and seconded. Dick Payne asked how the penalty is calculated; Sue Carpenter explained how payments are applied between principle, penalty and interest. Melissa Yu asked if there is a provision for people in hardship situations and clarification of how interest is accumulated; Sue responded. No further discussion. The Moderator stated the question. Article 7 adopted by voice vote.

Article 8 – Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot elect all Town officers required by law, according to law? Moderator read the Article. Moved by Walter Bothfeld, Jr. and seconded. Moderator called for nominations for the following offices: LISTER – one 3 year term. Jeanne Johnson nominated and seconded. No further nominations. Moderator requested a motion for Tara Rogerson to cast one ballot for Jeanne Johnson; so moved and seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Jeanne Johnson elected for a 3 year term. AUDITOR – one 3 year term. Sue Freeburn nominated and seconded. No further nominations. Moderator requested a motion for the Town Clerk to cast one ballot for Sue Freeburn; so moved and seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Sue Freeburn elected for a 3 year term. DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR – Susan Carpenter nominated and seconded. No further nominations. Susan Carpenter elected for a 1 year term by voice vote. FIRST CONSTABLE – Stephen Hogan nominated and seconded. No further nominations. Stephen Hogan elected for a 2 year term unless Article 12 is approved, then a 1 year term, by voice vote. SECOND CONSTABLE – No nominations. Position will be appointed by Selectboard. GRAND JUROR – David Pike nominated and seconded. No further nominations; David Pike elected Grand Juror for a 1 year term by voice vote. LAW AGENT – Chip Taylor nominated and seconded. No further nominations; Chip Taylor elected Law Agent for a 1 year term by voice vote. CEMETERY COMMISSIONER – one 5 year term. Melvin Churchill nominated and seconded. No further nominations; Melvin Churchill elected Cemetery Commissioner for a 5 year term by voice vote. LIBRARY TRUSTEE – one 2 year term. Stephanie Burtt nominated and seconded. No further nominations. Stephanie Burtt elected for a 2 year term by voice vote. LIBRARY TRUSTEE – one 3 year term. Jeanne McCallum nominated and seconded. No further nominations. Jeanne McCallum elected for 3 year term by voice vote. RECREATION COMMITTEE (non-term)– Tara Rogerson nominated and seconded. No further nominations; Tara Rogerson elected to the Recreation Committee by voice vote. RECREATION COMMITTEE (non-term)– Michelle Delaney nominated and seconded. No further nominations;

Michelle Delaney elected to the Recreation Committee by voice vote. UDAG COMMITTEE – one 2 year term. Jeanne Johnson nominated and seconded. No further nominations; Jeanne Johnson elected to the UDAG Committee for a 2 year term by voice vote. UDAG COMMITTEE – one 3 year term. Roman Kokodyniak nominated and seconded. No further nominations; Roman Kokodyniak elected to the UDAG Committee for a 3 year term by voice vote. WILLEY BUILDING COMMITTEE – Fred Ducharme nominated and seconded. No further nominations; Fred Ducharme elected to the Willey Building Committee for a term of 3 years by voice vote. WILLEY BUILDING COMMITTEE – Brad Alexander nominated and seconded. No further nominations; Brad Alexander elected to the Willey Building Committee for a term of 2 years by voice vote. Caleb announced that appointments are going to be made tonight for the positions listed on page 6 and any interested persons should contact a Selectboard member.

Article 9 – Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot authorize the Library Trustees to apply for and receive grants and gifts and to spend any grants and gifts received? Moderator read the Article; Grant Taylor. moved and seconded. No further discussion. The Moderator stated the question. Article 9 adopted by voice vote.

Article 10 – Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot grant the Cabot community Association (CCA) the sum of \$20,000 from UDAG funds in 2013 for the purpose of helping to hire a part-time Economic and Community Development Coordinator to coordinate volunteer activities in support of economic, educational, and community development in Cabot, write grants seeking funding in support of local economic, educational and community development activities, and undertake such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of the CCA? Moderator read the Article; Walter Bothfeld, Jr. moved and seconded. Melissa Yu asked for the purpose of this position. Jan Westervelt provided a description of CCA activities and short-term goals of the organization, explaining that long term priorities have yet to be determined; voters discussed same. No further discussion. The Moderator stated the question. Article 10 approved by Australian Ballot; YES - 148 No - 136.

Article 11 – Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot grant the Cabot community Association (CCA) the sum of \$7,500 from Town funds in 2013 for the purpose of helping to hire a part-time Economic and Community Development Coordinator to coordinate volunteer activities in support of economic, educational, and community development in Cabot, write grants seeking funding in support of local economic, educational and community development activities, and undertake such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of the CCA? Moderator read the Article; Walter Bothfeld, Jr. moved and seconded. No further discussion. The Moderator stated the question. Article 11 approved by Australian Ballot; YES - 142 No - 141.

Article 12 – Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot authorize the Cabot Selectboard to appoint first and second constables in accordance with 17 VSA § 2651a? Moderator read the Article. Caleb described the purpose of the Article. No further discussion. Moderator stated the question. Article 12 approved by Australian Ballot; YES - 241 No - 42.

Article 13 – Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot approve the sum of \$40,000 to defray the expenses of the Cabot Fire Department? Moderator read the Article. Walter Bothfeld, Jr. moved and seconded. Skip discussed the Fire Department budget and what has occurred in the past year. No further discussion. Moderator stated the question. Article 13 adopted by voice vote.

Article 14 – Shall the Town vote the sum of \$53,258 to support the Cabot Library? Moderator read the Article. Moved by Jan Westervelt and seconded. Stephen Cox questioned the reason for the increase. Beth Wade responded that director training insurance were the major reasons. No further discussion. Moderator stated the question. Article 14 adopted by voice vote.

Article 15 – Shall the Town vote the sum of \$20,000 to help toward the maintenance of the Cabot Cemeteries? Moderator read the Article. Moved by Walter Bothfeld, Jr. and seconded. No further discussion. Moderator stated the question. Article 15 adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Article 16 – Shall the Town vote the sum of \$11,000 to support the Cabot Ambulance? Moderator read the Article. Grant Taylor move and seconded. No discussion. Moderator stated the question. Article 16 adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Article 17 – Shall the Town vote the sum of \$500 to support the Cabot Senior Citizens group? Moderator read the Article. Walter Bothfeld, Jr. moved and seconded. No discussion. Moderator stated the question. Article 17 adopted by unanimous voice vote.

Article 18 – Shall the Town vote the sum of \$6,000 to support *The Cabot Chronicle*? Moved and seconded. Walter Churchill asked when The Chronicle may become self-sufficient and no longer need Town funding? Jeanne responded that it is the wish of The Chronicle, but subscription and ad revenue have not yet made it self-sustaining. Cecilia Gulka offered her appreciation for the free community paper. No further discussion. Moderator state the question. Article 18 adopted unanimously by voice vote.

Article 19 – Shall the Town vote the sum of \$6,800 to support the Cabot Recreation Committee? Moderator read the Article. Moved by Walter Bothfeld, Jr. and seconded. Tara Rogerson stated that the increased is intended to be put toward repairs to the recreation soccer and ball fields. Rebecca Nally discussed use of registration fees. Walter Churchill expressed concerns about fixing fields that are routinely impacted by heavy rains. No further discussion. Moderator stated the question. Article 19 adopted by voice vote.

Article 20 – Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot approve the sum of \$350 to purchase flats for Memorial Day? Moved by Richard Hourihan and seconded. No discussion. Moderator stated the question. Article 20 adopted by voice vote.

Article 21 – Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot appropriation the following sums for the following purposes:

A.	American Red Cross	\$ 500.00
B.	Aquatic Nuisance Control Project at Joe’s Pond	750.00
C.	A.W.A.R.E.	750.00
D.	Circle (formerly Battered Women’s Services and Shelter)	600.00
E.	Cabot TLC	500.00
F.	Central Vermont Adult Basic Education	1,200.00
G.	Central Vermont Center for Independent Living	165.00
H.	Central Vermont Community Action Council	350.00
I.	Central Vermont Council on Aging	1,300.00
J.	Central Vermont Economic Development Corp	300.00
K.	Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice	2,500.00
L.	Family Center of Washington County	500.00
M.	Friends of the Winooski River	400.00
N.	Green Mountain Transit Agency	733.00
O.	Green Up Vermont	100.00
P.	Northern VT Resource Conservation & Development Council	100.00
Q.	Onion River Food Shelf	800.00
R.	OUR House of Central Vermont, Inc.	200.00
S.	Peoples Health and Wellness Clinic	100.00
T.	Retired & Senior Volunteer Program and Center	200.00
U.	Sexual Assault Crisis Team	300.00
V.	Twin Valley Senior Center	1,000.00
W.	Vermont Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired	300.00
X.	Washington County Youth Service Bureau	250.00
Y.	West Danville Area Community Club	500.00
Z.	Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District	500.00
AA.	Woodbury-Calais Food Shelf	750.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 15,648.00</b>

Moderator read the Article. Walter Bothfeld, Jr. moved and seconded. Voters discussed same. Lee Blackwell moved to strike item “A” from the appropriation request; Wendy Heilig seconded. Skip stated that the first thing responders do is contact the Red Cross. No further discussion; Moderator stated the question. Motion to amend Article 18 was defeated by a voice vote. Voters discussed same. Melissa Yu moved to strike item “B” and “Y” from the appropriation request; Jessica Miller seconded. Caleb Pitkin and Kate Chatot spoke in support of those organizations. No further discussion; Moderator stated the question. Motion to amend Article 18 was defeated by a voice vote. No further discussion; Caleb moved to suspend the Rules of Order to reread the Article as written; seconded. Approved by voice vote. Article 21 adopted by voice vote.

Skip Bothfeld moved to recess for lunch, to recommence the Town Meeting at 1:00pm; Richard Hourihan seconded. No further discussion; motion passed. The 2013 Town Meeting Recessed at 11:58am. The 2013 Cabot Town Meeting reconvened at 1:02pm.

Article 22 - Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,425,900.00 to repair and maintain the highways of the Town including summer, winter and special treatment, of which an estimated \$905,000.00 is to come from income and \$520,900.00 from local taxes? Moderator read the Article. Richard Hourihan moved and seconded. Voters discussed the same, including Main Street construction, Town trucks, and traffic calming measurer. Richard Hourihan called the question; Walter Bothfeld, Jr. seconded. No further discussion. Moderator stated the question. Article 22 adopted unanimously by voice vote.

Article 23 - Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$631,306.00 to defray the General Expenses of the Town, with an estimated \$413,609.69 to come from income and \$217,696.31 from local taxes? Moderator read the Article. Walter Bothfeld, Jr. moved and seconded. Caleb stated that this was an overall decrease in Municipal taxes this year. No further discussion. Moderator stated the question. Article 23 adopted unanimously by voice vote.

Article 24 - Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot grant to Faith in Action NCP, Inc. the sum of \$2,320 toward the purchase of chairs, tables and refurbished computers from the UDAG funds available for Town Meeting grants in 2013? Walter Bothfeld, Jr. moved and seconded. Moderator read the Article. No discussion. Article 24 approved by Australian Ballot; YES - 163 No - 119

Article 25 - Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot grant to the Cabot Community Association for the *Cabot Chronicle* and the Cabot PTSO the sum of \$4,800 toward the purchase of Maple Fest and Fourth of July fundraising tools from UDAG funds available for Town Meeting grants in 2013? Walter Bothfeld, Jr. moved and seconded. Moderator read the Article. Melissa Yu asked if these funds are repaid; Caleb responded that they were a grant and not repaid. No further discussion. Article 25 approved by Australian Ballot; YES - 181 No - 96

Article 26 - Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot approve amending Section 3A(iv) of the UDAG Plan to read: "iv. any funds available for granting not used in any given year can be used by the UDAG Committee to support economic and community development in Cabot."? Walter Bothfeld, Jr. moved and seconded. Moderator read the Article. No discussion. Article 26 approved by Australian Ballot; YES - 183 No - 99

Article 27 - Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot authorize the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District to appropriate and expend a budget of \$679,878.00? Walter Bothfeld, Jr. moved and seconded. Moderator read the Article. No discussion. Article approved by Australian Ballot; YES- 202 No- 66

Article 28 - Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot advise the Cabot Selectboard to identify options, issues, costs and grant opportunities associated with the construction of improvements for traffic and pedestrians along Main Street and VT Route 215 in Cabot Village, potentially including sidewalks, traffic calming measures and streetscape enhancements? Walter Bothfeld, Jr. moved and seconded. Moderator read the Article. Caleb discussed process to date and the proposal before the voters and encourages greater discussion; voters discussed the same including traffic control, Sheriff patrols, raised sidewalks and quality of life in the village. Article approved by Australian Ballot; YES - 151 No - 134

Article 29 - Shall the voters of the Town of Cabot instruct the Selectboard to enact the following resolution to protect citizen health and safety, water bodies and other natural resources, in relation to tar sands oil transport through Vermont?

WHEREAS, the oil industry appears to be planning to use an aging oil pipeline, built in 1950, to bring Canadian tar sands diluted bitumen through Vermont on its way to Portland, Maine for export; and

WHEREAS, the mining, drilling, and processing of tar sands requires a vast and destructive industrial operation that emits 3-5 times more carbon pollution per barrel than conventional U.S. crude oil, among many other problems; and

WHEREAS, pipelines carrying tar sands have a greater likelihood of leaks and spills because of the corrosive properties of tar sands, and such spills are more costly and difficult to clean up than conventional oil spills, as demonstrated by a 2010 tar sands spill that contaminated the Kalamazoo River in Michigan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Town expresses its opposition to the transport of tar sands oil through Vermont, and its deep concern about the risks of such transport for public health and safety, property values, and our natural resources; and
2. That the Town shall require every fuel vendor, as a precondition for doing business with Town, to provide complete and current lists of the refinery sources of origin for all fuel the vendor sells, and thereby direct the Town's purchases as much as possible toward vendors whose refinery sources do not use any material derived from tar sands; and
3. That the Town encourage the State of Vermont and other northeast states to support policies phasing out fuel purchases as quickly as possible from vendors whose refinery sources of origin use any form of tar sands, and support policies such as a Clean Fuels Standard to help keep such fuels out of the region's fuel supply; and
4. That the Town call upon the Vermont State Legislature and the U.S. Congress to ensure thorough environmental impact reviews of any tar sands-related pipeline proposals, including the health and safety impacts of potential tar sands oil spills, along with clear guidelines for tracking the origins and chemical composition of pipeline contents and feedstocks; and
5. That the Town transmit a copy of this resolution to all relevant state, federal and Canadian officials, and the CEOs of Portland Pipe Line Corporation, Montreal Pipe Line Limited, Imperial Oil, ExxonMobil, and Enbridge Inc.

Walter Bothfeld, Jr. moved and seconded. Moderator read the Article. No discussion. Article 29 approved by Australian Ballot; YES – 190 No – 95

Article 30 – To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting. Walter Bothfeld, Jr. moved and seconded. Moderator read the Article. Ellen Blachly resolved to encourage the Cabot Selectboard to redirect \$5,000 in order to install a single raised crosswalk on the North end of the Village; Cathleen Maine seconded. Voters discussed the scope of request, whether additional sidewalks would be needed, and whether a raised crosswalk was appropriate. No further discussion. Moderator stated the motion. Motion defeated by voice vote. Voters discussed a potential sinking fund, the tar sands resolution, appointment vacancies, participating in an arts survey, the Selectboard vacancy. Ed Smith thanked the Cabot Fire and Ambulance Departments for their service.

Article 25 - To adjourn this meeting. Moderator read the Article. Walter Bothfeld, Jr. moved and seconded. No discussion. Moderator stated the question. Article 25 adopted by voice vote; meeting adjourned at 1:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Tara Rogerson  
Cabot Town Clerk