

**Town of Franklin/School District
Town Meeting
Franklin Elementary School
March 7, 2017**

Moderator Timothy Magnant called the Franklin School District & Town Meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

Microphone helpers were introduced, Miriam Edele and Jacey Rivers.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Eric Bushey.

RULES- All questions, comments, etc are to be directed to the moderator; stick to the subject, no personal attacks, let's remain civil to one another; unregistered voters were reminded that they may talk with permission from the moderator and the group. Meeting follows Roberts Rules unless otherwise stated.

Franklin School District meeting started.

1. To elect a moderator for the ensuing year.

Gilbert Dewing/Jean Richard nominated Tim Magnant. Jean moved to close nominations; vote was taken, all in favor, Tim Magnant elected moderator for ensuing year.

2. To receive and discuss the reports of the school directors.

• **Superintendent, Principal, School Directors pages 56-60, 61, 62**

Michelle Guilmette/Peter Magnant made the motion to accept reports as presented.

Marilyn Hackett superintendents report on top of page 57 re: local assessments of primary readers approximately 60% proficient & math similar, wants more detail on if reading & math recovery available. Joyce Hakey math screener purpose is to identify/screen if students are struggling with math and get them help. Reading recovery & math intervention is available in Franklin. Not certain on assessments that superintendent is referring to.

Marilyn Hackett superintendents report page 58 Central office employs an adaptive curriculum coordinator, job entails? Joyce Hakey stated employee is Heidi Mosher and works with all of elementary schools to adapt curriculum to students with special needs.

Lucille Rainville superintendents of schools "State of the union" report, report is for the union, Franklin is doing very well based on numbers presented.

Kim Gates-Maynard page 58 business office- FNWSU taking over special ed, transportation, etc. from the local schools. How are funds being separated? Tom Gates, school board-3 years ago SPED professionals & transportation shifted to FNWSU, SPED revenues shifting to go to FNWSU starting this year as well then filter back to Schools.

Vote was taken on Superintendent, Principal, School Directors pages 56-60, 61, 62, all in favor, motion passed.

• **Act 46 Independent Study committee page 63**

Jean Richard/Gilbert Dewing made the motion to accept reports as written.

Jay Denault would like to amend the motion to include the following "In the event the motion for a proposal is made to merge the Franklin School District as required by Act46, should it be determined by the legal voters of Franklin that such an action would be harmful to our students and taxpayers for the continuation of the existence of our local school, the legal voters would be opposed to any senate proposal."

Tim stated not sure that is an acceptable motion; motion out of order; we are only here to accept these informational reports. Jay stated calling point of order on moderator, statement needs to be made on Act46 direction Franklin Central School may be taking.

Peter Magnant spoke to discussion of these reports, not to changing them. Pierrette Bouchard suggested give ideas to local board but not the place for a motion.

Vote was taken: All those in favor of overruling the moderator and accepting the motion, 1 vote.

Vote was taken: All those in favor of the moderator and not accepting the motion, majority in favor. Amended motion failed.

Robert Berger, school board member, discussed Act46 progress & meetings. The 706 Study was strongly turned down by voters and the board formed our own study committee. The preferred structure is a unified board and unified school district governed by one board. Pursuing an alternative structure as defined under Act46, really maintaining status quo. Stringent guidelines need to be followed to present a plan to Department of Education; criteria all very lengthy and available online. Have been meeting biweekly since July and also meet with 3 area schools. We are looking at the best model for our town and school/students. Meetings are held at MVU and he encourages all interested to attend. Robert stated that the Act46 report covers all FNWSU local schools, not just Franklin.

Jim Jewett page 63 last sentence "ultimately, the State Board of Education will have the final say as to what happens to our Supervisory Union structure", school consolidation is not always the way to go, history has shown that with others that have done it, Act46 should not be a lump across the board system, certainly not for Franklin.

Vote was taken, majority in favor, motion passed.

- **Cross Roads After School Program pages 64-65**

Jean Richard/ Gilbert Dewing made the motion to accept reports as written.

Susan Clark we don't need to accept the report, "just receive and discuss".

Vote was taken, all in favor, motion passed.

- **FNWSU Treasurer, Agency Funds & Combined balance sheet, Franklin's Treasurer report pages 69, 70, 71**

Jean Richard/Gilbert Dewing made the motion to accept reports as written.

Kim Gates-Maynard page 66 FNWSU budget, does Franklin get any vote on those budget numbers or does it just get passed through Franklin's budget? Tom Gates stated 3 Franklin members get to review that budget and ask questions, they get to vote along with board members from other union towns.

Vote was taken, all in favor, motion passed.

3. **Shall the voters of the Franklin Town School District approve the school board to expend \$1,712,062.00, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$12,938.29 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 10.73% higher than spending for the current year.**

Jean Richard/Gilbert Dewing made the motion to approve the school board to expend \$1,712,062.00, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year.

Kim Gates-Maynard clarification on why article is written this way. Tom Gates stated Vermont State Statute requires it to be written this way.

Marilyn Hackett why a 10.73% increase in per equalized pupil spending? Tom Gates stated 2 reasons, both relating to special education. Needs have increased by 70% needing more staffing as well as SPED transportation. School is also down about 9 kids this year which affects that rate, Franklin still well below county & State net average per pupil spending.

Susan Clark does that number include preK -6? Tom stated it includes prek-6.

Dan Larivee down on students but costs is more? When does the increase slow down? Tom stated school tries to run as efficiently as it can and provide the best education that we can so students will be prepared & successful when they move to MVU, need to support MVU not bring it down.

Susan Clark commended Franklin principal & board to great facts and figures in this years report. MVU & FNWSU report doesn't show any negative that is happening in the school.

Paulette Tatro page 76 proposed tax rates- revenue down \$70,000. EEE grant and Mainstream block grant all show zero revenue, are they moved to FNWSU? Tom Gates page 82 Special Education Revenues -still receiving funds but being funneled through FNWSU.

Richard Mercy someone paid for our education, it's our time to pay for theirs.

Jay Denault Franklin Central School is top performing K-6 school.

Tom Gates we have a great staff & administration that run Franklin school and make it successful, thank you. .

Vote was taken, all in favor, motion passed approving the school board to expend \$1,712,062.00, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year.

4. To elect a Franklin School Director for a term of three (3) years.

Tim Magnant stepped down and Yvon Dandurand continued as moderator for article 4.

Jean Richard nominated Tim Magnant. No other nominations made. Vote was taken, all in favor, Tim Magnant elected as school director for three years. Tim continued as moderator at this point.

5. To transact any other business legally authorized to be transacted; considered appropriate and necessary when met.

Tim Magnant-Robert Irish served on MVU School Board for 9 years, a plaque was presented to him, he was not in attendance.

Jean Richard/Gilbert Dewing made the motion to end Town School District Meeting and enter regular Town Meeting. Vote was taken, all in favor, Town School District meeting adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

CLOSE TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING AND ENTER REGULAR TOWN MEETING

6. To elect a moderator for the ensuing year.

Gilbert Dewing/Jean Richard nominated Tim Magnant. Jean Richard moved to close nominations. Vote was taken, all in favor, Tim Magnant elected moderator.

7. To elect a Town Treasurer for a term of three years.

Jean Richard/Gilbert Dewing nominated Lisa Larivee. Jean Richard moved to close nominations. Vote was taken, all in favor, Lisa Larivee elected Town Treasurer for a three year term.

8. To receive and discuss the reports of the several town officers.

• **Auditors page 7**

Hugh Gates page 30 auditors presented balance sheet doesn't make sense, is it part of fiscal year transition? Jean Richard transition to fund balance, next year will have better numbers for comparisons.

• **Selectboard, Road Commissioner, paving progress and road maintenance reports pages 8, 9, 10**

Kim Gates-Maynard Page 9 Road Commissioners Report-anything in place of a policy for the public's use of sand & salt? Andrew Godin, new policy and have a separate pile at the entrance of the yard for people to load up a five-gallon pail, out of the way of large equipment in the yard.

Kim Gates-Maynard 2016 Road Maintenance Report, some roads not chlorided and some roads same amount even though not same length of road. Was it just put in front of houses?? Andrew Godin, doesn't have answer, he will have to ask highway crew; chloride spread on entire road, not just in front of houses.

George Godin some roads that are in shaded areas don't require as much or any, traffic volume also makes a difference in application quantity.

Marilyn Hackett-Town, VTrans and Franklin Telephone Company negotiations on Park & Ride, what is being done towards resolution? What is tolling agreement that was signed? Peter stated that the Town is moving toward a resolution, this has been ongoing since 2015, the lot was closed as the result of a court ruling. The Town is working with VTrans and Franklin Telephone in the hopes to reopen the Park & Ride. Kim Gates-Maynard stated that Franklin Telephone is working toward a resolution with the Town, it's an unfortunate situation. Peter Magnant stated that the tolling agreement was from VTrans and gives the Town an extension to rectify the park & ride issue and find a resolution. State has said that the Park & Ride needs to be opened or grant funds received need to be paid back, the select board is hopeful they are moving in the right direction to open the lot. Yvon Dandurand stated there are no requirements that the Town has to meet at the end of the tolling agreement period. Ed Rainville-VLCT advised the State has left a window open for the town to be exempt from making this grant repayment.

Marilyn Hackett would like to know dollar figure that would have to be repaid, most or least? Peter Magnant stated the figure was in last year's Town report, \$41,250 was grant amount used.

Paulette Tatro had questions on the weed harvester and the adequacy of the engine size for the machine. She mentioned that as a camp owner on the lake, she feels that the weeds are taking over, they need to be kept up with and the machine should be on the lake operating at its maximum capacity all summer long, properties are going to start being affected if the harvester does not run for another summer.

- **Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Zoning Administrator pages 11, 12**
Kim Gates-Maynard Planning Commission report; seems that the Town Plan was just done, what's the timeline? Will there be public meetings before finalized? Dave Bennion, Planning Commission member, Town Plan is a 5 year plan, must be updated that frequently. Planning Commission has been making updates at their meetings then goes to the Select board for final approval. There will be public hearings for community input, anticipating 3-4 months before final approval.

Marilyn Hackett noted that the Shoreland protection act and renewable energy are listed in the report as being discussed numerous times. She would like to know what has been discussed. Dave Bennion stated the planning commission has been gathering information, currently those topics will be left alone then once the State has their final regulations an amendment will be done to the Town Plan.

- **Cemetery Commissioner's, Enhanced 911, Emergency Management Coordinator, Health Officers pages 12, 13, 15**
No discussion or questions had.
- **Franklin Homestead, Vermont Community Development Block Grant, Franklin Historical Society pages 14, 15**
No discussion or questions had.
- **Franklin Watershed Committee and financial report pages 16, 17**
Kim Gates-Maynard finding page 17 financial report- grant income to grant expenses difficult to trace, 2016 Local Watershed Expenses is a very large line to lump into one category with no breakdown. John Barrows from FWC 2016 Local Watershed Expenses was for coordinator salary & w/c & liability insurance that went with that position as well as mileage, part time coordinator.

Hugh Gates grants & expenses not the same thing, would like 2016 Local Watershed Expenses better broken down. Northrop Grumman Corp \$5000 revenue, camper applied for and received a donation on behalf of the FWC.

Jes Alexant noted that our local waters lead to international waters; they should be recognizing/highlighting that when applying for federal funding. John Barrows, most grants are from State of Vermont or Lake Champlain Water Basin, complex group of agencies worked with to get funding.

Marilyn Hackett there are many highly polluted rivers that come through Franklin, waters shared with Canada.

- **Lake Carmi Campers Association page 18**

Marilyn Hackett commended the LCCA on their donations back to community organizations.

- **Haston Library trustees report, Haston Library & Eben Racine Memorial funds, and Haston library treasurer's report and budget, pages 19, 20, 21**

Marilyn Hackett re: page 30 third paragraph, proud of what the library has done for events in the community that includes adults and children. Disapproves of the cutting of the library budget by \$4,000, would like to reinstate these funds.

Peter Magnant thanked the library & trustees for working with the select board on the level funding of the budget at \$38,000.

Deborah Grennon, library trustee, thanked the librarians for all their work with the budget process as well.

- **Franklin Water District and financials pages 22, 23**

Kim Gates-Maynard clarification on page 23 total income project loan FY17 budget then again FY18 budget, did the Town already vote to approve the funds? Marshall Ploof, Water District Commissioner, State making the project very complicated, still waiting for final approvals, Town has not voted on it yet, will bring to voters once we hear from the State. Marshall stated it may be this summer or even next Town meeting before vote takes place for funding.

- **Franklin Recreation Department report and budget pages 24, 25**

Bridget Thompson spoke on behalf of the Recreation Department. Currently a 5 member board which is Bridgette Favreau, Nicole Tatro, Brady Giroux, Stephanie Ho and Bridget Thompson, they also have advisory members from the community, always looking for volunteers and ideas.

- **Equipment fund and dog licenses page 26**

Hugh Gates, what does the State do with the money we send them from our dog licenses. Lisa Larivee stated that \$5 per dog goes toward rabies drops, VSnip clinics and shot clinics.

- **Treasurer's report, balance sheet, Long-term debt, Reserve/Liabilities account changes pages 27,30, 31, 32**

No discussion or questions had.

- **Delinquent tax collectors report page 38**

No discussion or questions had.

- **Selectboard general orders pages 39-44**

Marilyn Hackett Highgate Arena Article #11-what is it? Peter Magnant stated that was an article was that voted and approved at FY16 Town Meeting.

- **Selectboard highway orders and weed harvester orders pages 48-49**

No discussion or questions had.

- **Franklin Fire Department report and treasurer's report pages 50-52**

Hugh Gates page 31 Fire Truck fund \$67,164, where did that come from? Sara Rainville Fire Department Treasurer stated \$13,500 came from fire department equipment reserve fund and \$10,000 also had been held by the Town in reserve from Franklin Rescue, she was not part of the report building so not sure where that number came from. Lisa Larivee, Treasurer, stated \$40,000 was taxes raised in 2016 also.

9. Will the voters of the Town of Franklin appropriate a sum up to \$11,000 to upgrade sidewalks along Main Street contingent on being awarded a grant?

Jean Richard/Gilbert Dewing made the motion to appropriate a sum up to \$11,000 to upgrade sidewalks along Main Street contingent on being awarded a grant.

Jes Alexant-is this the total project cost or the town's share?

Peter Magnant-\$22,000 total includes a 50% Town match. Work would be from Mark Racine's house on east side of Main Street north to Town Hall driveway. The board has also been looking at the sidewalks on west side of the road in front of Franklin Telephone north to Square Road. Board would like to do in pieces to lessen the tax burden on the Town tax payers in one year.

Marilyn Hackett a lot of activity at General Store, sidewalks would be most important in that area due to vehicles backing into the road.

Vote was taken, majority in favor, motion passed to appropriate a sum up to \$11,000 to upgrade sidewalks along Main Street contingent on being awarded a grant.

10. Will the voters of the Town of Franklin appropriate a sum of \$16,000 for the operation/management of the Franklin Recreation Department?

Bridget Thompson/Gilbert Dewing made the motion to appropriate a sum of \$16,000 for the operation/management of the Franklin Recreation Department.

Bridget Thompson spoke on the background of board members and history of the department since inception in June 2016. The members want to meet needs of the school and community as a whole. They want to be effective as a whole and offer well thought out ideas & opportunities.

Robert Irish questioned if this will be an annual fee requested from the Recreation Department. Bridget stated that the long term plan is for the department to be self-sufficient, but currently would like the director to be paid for by tax payers.

Peter Magnant stated that the select board has been working closely with the recreation board members, the budget request would come to the Town by article for 3 consecutive years for voter approval, and then it would be included in Town budget annually.

Marilyn Hackett stated that there was a Winter Carnival put on last month by the Recreation Department; it was very successful and had a great turnout. She is very impressed with work that the board members have done on a volunteer basis. We need to encourage this way of life in our community.

Paula Tremblay thanked the recreation department and all the youth of the community for all their work in keeping this alive in the community.

Robert Cormier spoke on unknowing what State budget and Federal budgets will be. Spoke on director salary and board member salaries. Bridget stated the need for consistency in the department and programs; Franklin School is one of the only schools in the county without an Athletic Director.

Michelle Guilmette pointed out tax rate table on page 28 and the effect the article passing would have on the budget.

Judith McLaughlin asked for clarification on budget being used and future programs. Bridget reiterated the need for a director to coordinate; the hope is that programs will be self sufficient by fees charged for them.

Maureen Sodaro spoke on work that the recreation department has been doing and what could be done in the future, we need to be able to offer our families something and also draw people to Town.

Robert Irish spoke on volunteerism in Town over the past years. Spoke on his support for a director.

Deborah Grennon spoke about the library working with the recreation department in future programming.

Nicole Tatro, Community Coordinator for the Recreation Department, spoke on the other groups that have been involved within the community in planning, discussions & programs.

Jean Richard/Gilbert Dewing moved the question. Vote taken on moving the question, majority in favor, motion passed.

Paper ballots requested. All ballots have been cast, Tim declared ballots closed. Total ballots cast was 105, 84 yes & 21 no. Motion passed appropriating a sum of \$16,000 for the operation/management of the Franklin Recreation Department.

Reps. Chuck Pearce & Stephen Beyor spoke. Not many updates to report. Governor has promised not to approve legislature that increases taxes. Act46 legislature discussed.

Meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:06 p.m. Meeting will reconvene at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

11. Will the voters of the Town of Franklin appropriate a sum up to \$3,300 to purchase a snow blower attachment for our current tractor?

Gilbert Dewing/Agnes Mercier made the motion to appropriate a sum up to \$3,300 to purchase a snow blower attachment for our current tractor.

Robert Irish questioned what tractor will it be going on? Tim replied the school's Kubota tractor.

Curtis Ploof- the Kubota has a snow blower already? Peter Magnant stated it does have one and it is old and in frequent need of repair; it will be kept as a backup to the new one.

Robert Irish questioned sidewalk upkeep. It will be shared between the school & the town and used for sidewalks by the highway department.

Paulette Tatro article read as "our tractor", should it read "school tractor"? Peter Magnant stated current tractor agreement states that tractor maintenance will be done by Town and is shared with school as well as the z-turn mower.

Vote was taken, all in favor. Motion passed appropriating a sum up to \$3,300 to purchase a snow blower attachment for our current tractor.

12. Are the voters of the Town of Franklin in favor of maintaining Enosburgh Ambulance Service as the ambulance provider for the next five years?

Jean Richard/Gilbert Dewing made the motion to maintain Enosburgh Ambulance Service as the ambulance provider for the next five years.

Michelle Guilmette questioned the alternative service to EAS? Peter Magnant noted that information was provided on the chairs in regards to ambulance coverage by Enosburgh Rescue (EAS) and Amcare as well as in Town report, shows cost comparison.

Johanna Crane-Godin spoke about quality of both of the services; EAS two rigs, AmCare 6 rigs, price is so similar it's not a factor to her.

Corinna Stanley spoke about both services backing each other up. What is the longevity of EAS if towns move to Amcare?? Peter Magnant stated EAS doesn't want to lose our business but has not seen their financials, feels it would create a strain to their service if they did loose us. Michelle Guilmette questioned if EAS could have lowered our rate over the past few years from the contract amount and did not? Peter stated current proposal is lower due to the Medicare Reimbursement rate changing. The reimbursement rate did change during our existing contract but we were under contract and nothing changed. We wouldn't want contract to change and go up if their expenses increased.

Pierrette Bouchard, is it factual that the two ambulances back each other up? Concerned about AmCare becoming a monopoly and lessening competition. Polly Gadbois there is an agreement but she's not certain what service backups which; both services are

outstanding, never should be a money issue, always about level of service & response time.

Lynn Paradis spoke to AmCare and locations they cover and them taking over all of the small local ambulance services.

Paper ballots requested. All ballots have been cast, Tim declared ballots closed. Total ballots cast was 68, 53 yes & 15 no. Motion passed to maintain Enosburgh Ambulance Service as the ambulance provider for the next five years.

13. To see if the voters will vote an adequate sum of money to meet current expenses, deficit, and debt payment of the town as indicated in the proposed municipal budget?

(Pages 34-37 \$697,712.50)

Gilbert Dewing/Jean Richard made the motion to approve \$697,712.50 to meet current expenses, deficit, and debt payment of the town as indicated in the proposed municipal budget.

Kim Gates-Maynard noted that budget looks very similar to last year but confused by the comparison of tax rates table and the large difference between FY17 and FY18. Peter stated the budget for this year is very comparable to last years; difference comes in less anticipated revenue and the reserved fund income being removed due to our accounting practices being changed. Kim noted the difference \$.07 increase in the tax rate. Lisa Larivee, Treasurer, stated part of this has to do with the estimating of the checking account balance for year end in past years and moving to a fund balance method that we know is accurate. The board also cut this year's budget (FY17) by \$68,000 to keep the tax rate low once error had been found; these expenses were moved back into the FY18 budget.

Michelle Guilmette talked about check book balances, the select board budget reduction from FY17, expenses still need to be done from FY17 that were cut so they have been carried into FY18 budget, reserve funds can't be utilized as income. Michelle referenced page 30 fund balance totals and usefulness in budgeting process and reporting.

Marilyn Hackett questioned the level funding of library budget the past two years. Peter spoke about the Town funds that the library receives, the library is the one that has proposed their budget request from the Town and being leveled funded. Deborah Grennon spoke to the change in interlibrary loan expense, saving \$600 a year with Green Mountain Messenger. Susan Clark stated that the library did their part to keep their expenses down with the rising tax rates; credit the librarian with helping to find savings, becoming more efficient.

Marilyn Hackett made the motion to amend the budget to \$698,712.50, and to earmark that additional \$1,000 to the library programming budget. No second to the motion. Motion failed.

Brian Sartwell/Janet Norcross made the motion to move the discussion. Vote taken, majority in favor, motion passed.

Vote was taken, all in favor. Motion passed approving \$697,712.50 to meet current expenses, deficit, and debt payment of the town as indicated in the proposed municipal budget.

14. To elect the following town officers:

A. One selectboard member for a term of three years. (by ballot)

Andrew Godin/Tom Gates nominated Brooks Sturtevant. Jean Richard move to close nominations and clerk to cast one ballot. Vote was taken, all in favor, Brooks Sturtevant elected select board member for term of three years.

B. One selectboard member for a term of two years. (by ballot)

Jean Richard/Gilbert Dewing nominated Paulette Tatro.
Ed Rainville/Janet Norcross nominated Andrew Godin.

Jean Richard/Gilbert Dewing made the motion to close nominations. All in favor, nominations closed.

Paulette and Andrew both spoke on their qualifications & background.

Paper ballots used. All ballots have been cast, Tim declared ballots closed.

Ballots cast: 70, 46 Andrew, 23 Paulette, 1 blank. Andrew Godin elected select board member for term of two years.

C. One lister for a term of three years. (by ballot)

Michelle Guilmette/Bryant Reynolds nominated Jean Richard. Gilbert Dewing/George Godin closed nominations and clerk to cast one ballot. All in favor, motion passed, Jean Richard elected lister for term of three years.

D. One lister for an unexpired term of two years (by ballot)

Jean Richard/Gilbert Dewing nominated Sara Rainville. Michelle Guilmette/Johanna Crane-Godin move to close nominations and clerk to cast one ballot. All in favor, motion passed, Sara Rainville elected lister for term of two years.

E. One auditor for a term of three years. (by ballot)

Nancy Wilson/Pauline Favreau nominated Michelle Guilmette. Jean Richard/Gilbert Dewing move to close nominations and clerk to cast one ballot. All in favor, motion passed, Michelle Guilmette elected auditor for term of three years.

F. A trustee of public money for a term of one year.

George Godin/Bryant Reynolds nominated Susan Clark. Michelle Guilmette/Pauline Favreau move to close nomination. All in favor, motion passed, Susan Clark elected trustee of public money for term of one year.

G. A trustee of the Haston Library Fund for a term of one year.

Bryant Reynolds/Deborah Grennon nominated Kim Gates-Maynard. Gilbert Dewing/Jean Richard move to close nominations. All in favor, motion passed, Kim Gates-Maynard elected trustee of the Haston Library fund for term of one year.

H. Two Haston Library trustees for three year terms.

Deborah Grennon/Jean Richard nominated Paula Tremblay.

Bryant Reynolds/Pierrette Bouchard nominated Jeffrey Teitelbaum.

Peter Magnant/Yvon Dandurand move to close nominations. All in favor, motion passed, Paula Tremblay and Jeffrey Teitelbaum each elected as a Haston Library trustees for terms of three years.

I. A collector of delinquent taxes for a term of one year.

Jean Richard/Gilbert Dewing nominated Johanna Crane-Godin. Nominations closed. All in favor, motion passed, Johanna Crane-Godin elected collector of delinquent taxes for a term of one year.

J. A constable for a term of one year.

Brooks Sturtevant/Jean Richard nominated Burt Maynard. Nominations closed. All in favor, motion passed, Burt Maynard elected constable for a term of one year.

K. A town agent to prosecute and defend suits in which the town is interested.

Ed Rainville/Bryant Reynolds nominated George Godin. Nominations closed. All in favor, motion passed, George Godin elected as town agent for a term of one year.

L. One or more grand jurors.

George Godin nominated Doug Clark.

Ed Rainville nominated Marshall Ploof, Marshall declined.

Nominations closed. All in favor, motion passed, Doug Clark elected a grand juror for the term of one year.

M. One representative to serve on the Franklin Homestead, Inc. Board of Directors for a term of three years.

Jay Hartman/Linda Hartman nominated Dwight Tatro. Nominations closed. All in favor, motion passed, Dwight Tatro elected representative to serve on the Franklin Homestead Inc. Board for the term of three years.

15. To elect a person, or persons, to act as cemetery commissioner(s) to care for the cemeteries in town where there is no one responsible to act in such a capacity.

Pierrette Bouchard/Bryant Reynolds nominated Nancy Wilson, Jennifer Dewing, Howard Vansette and Ellen Magnant. Nominations closed. All in favor, motion passed, Nancy Wilson, Jennifer Dewing, Howard Vansette and Ellen Magnant elected cemetery commissioners for a term of one year.

16. To see if the voters will set the date of payment of property taxes paid to the treasurer to be October 16, 2017 before close of business.

Gilbert Dewing/Jean Richard made the motion set the date of payment of property taxes paid to the treasurer to be October 16, 2017 before close of business. Vote was taken, all in favor, property taxes will be paid to the Treasurer on October 16, 2017 before close of business.

17. As an advisory non-binding article: Do the voters of the Town of Franklin want to designate specific areas in the town for large scale renewable energy projects such as wind and /or solar?

Jean Richard/Gilbert Dewing made the motion to designate specific areas in the town for large scale renewable energy projects such as wind and /or solar.

Andy Rainville would like to see solar panels put on the 20 acres that the Town owns by the highway department to power our schools, library, town clerk's office, street lights, etc. Dave Bennion said that this article is looking for guidance on if the Town's people would like the select board and planning commission to have a say. Johanna Crane-Godin is this article looking to regulate private property owners or the Town? Dave Bennion guidelines to show state where the Town stands in regards to these projects. Judith McLaughlin enhanced energy planning handout available, State Act 174 background given. 1-traditional energy planning needs or 2-enhanced energy planning, it looks at entire Town, where do you want renewable energy assets to be located in your Town, a more strict Town Plan adopted and more say with Vermont Public Service Board.

Marilyn Hackett talked about small & large scale wind & solar in regards to noise and aesthetics. Can we regulate it legally? Judith replied we can't say "no" but can set location, size, timeline, etc. and other criteria through enhanced energy planning.

Yvon Dandurand discussed the background & intentions of the article, still in the very early stages and a long ways to go.

Michelle Guilmette designating specific areas, what happens if article fails?? Judith explained there will be many meetings and encourages everyone to attend as it's a big topic of discussion.

Susan Clark questioned if the Town's people get to vote on the Town Plan for final approval? Peter advised yes, the Planning Commission develops the document then it goes to the select board. The select board then holds two public meetings for review, and then it has a final vote.

Bryant Reynolds/Janet Norcross made the motion to table the article to the next Planning Commission meeting March 21, 2017 7:00 p.m. at the Franklin Homestead. Vote taken: 24 in favor, 23 opposed, motion passed.

18. To see if the town will vote to publish the names of all delinquent property taxpayers and amounts due and owed to the town as of December 31, 2017.

Gilbert Dewing/Jean Richard made the motion to publish the names of all delinquent property taxpayers and amounts due and owed to the town as of December 31, 2017.

Marilyn Hackett spoke to her dislike of this practice.

Vote was taken, majority in favor, motion passed to publish the names of all delinquent property taxpayers and amounts due and owed to the town as of December 31, 2017.

19. To elect any town officers to fill any town office that may be vacant at this time.

None.

20. To transact any other non-binding business thought proper when met.

Marilyn Hackett asked about Town Meeting being declared a State holiday.

Peter Magnant thanked Brooks & Andy for their dedication to the select board and willingness to give back to the Town. He also thanked the cemetery commissioners for all their work; they don't currently receive funding from the Town but that may change in the future. He congratulated the recreation members for all their work, looking forward to the future. The select board is looking for zoning board of adjustment members, currently down two members and uncertain of remaining members intentions to stay on that board, see any select board member or the Town Clerk's Office with questions. Peter noted that many Towns across the State no longer hold Town Meetings and have discussion & voting done from the floor, this is disheartening.

Andrew Rainville would like newly constructed homes in Town to get a one year tax break.

Gilbert Dewing/Jean Richard made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Vote taken, all in favor, meeting adjourned at 3:13 p.m.

Franklin Select board

Franklin School Directors

Peter Magnant

Timothy Magnant

Yvon Dandurand

Robert Berger

Edmund Rainville

Thomas Gates

Andrew Godin

Brooks Sturtevant