

**2011 TOWN MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 28, 2011**

The legal voters of the Town of Burke met Monday, February 28, 2011 at 6:00 P.M. in the Community Building at 212 School Street, West Burke, for an informational meeting to discuss articles to be voted on by Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 1, 2011 and to vote on three public questions.

**TOWN OF BURKE DISTRICT MEETING
February 28, 2011**

Howard Crawford, moderator opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. He then had a moment of silence in memory of the ones that had passed during the year. The audience all joined in to sing America the Beautiful.

Senator Joe Benning, Legislators, Howard Crawford and Dick Lawrence spoke to the audience about what is going on and what is coming up in Montpelier. They then had a question and answer session.

Moderator Crawford read through the articles on the warning and asked if there were any questions on any of the articles that would be voted on by Australian Ballot on Tuesday.

Article 1. Shall the voters of Burke accept the Town Report? Carol Krochak asked why the Community Building account was so high. Sam explained that the driveway had been paved, but the expense had been offset by grants. And money paid from the budgeted highway paving. Carol felt that the paving money should have been put in a rainy day fund to help paving Town roads like Newark Street. Bob Ware felt that the appropriations should have more detail like how many Burke residents were served through out the year. (that was covered in the Town Report pages 14 through 16)

Motion to accept was made by Tony DeMasi, seconded by Dwight Davis – Passed by Voice vote.

Article 2. Shall the voters of Burke authorize the Selectmen to have all taxes paid into the Treasury as provided by law and if so, to establish Tuesday, November 1, 2011 by 4:00 p.m. as the due date? Bob Ware asked why the date needed to be extended. It was explained that the State has until September 15th to accept errors and omissions from residents to be applied to their tax bills and the State then sends adjustments to the Town, which creates adjusted tax bills. Waiting will save sending so many revised bills.

Motion to accept was made by Tony DeMasi, seconded by Robert Ware. Passed by Voice vote.

Article 3. Shall the voters of Burke vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow money in anticipation of revenues? Erica Liss asked to have this article explained. Sam said that it gives the Selectboard permission to borrow money if needed until property tax money comes in in October. Motion to accept was made by Tony DeMasi, seconded by Tracie Surridge. Passed by Voice vote.

Article 4. Shall the voters of Burke vote to accept the proposed 2011 Town budget of \$1,105,796.32 for the ensuing year to meet the expenses and liabilities of the town and to authorize the Selectmen to set a tax rate to provide the same? (Australian Ballot) YES – 207 - NO – 13 - BLANK/SPOILED – 13 = 233

Article 5. The following Town Officers were elected.

Town Moderator	Howard Crawford
Selectman	Emery Noyes
Lister	Ronald Paquette
Auditor	Jeanne Miles
Constable	Paul Gallant
Town Grand Jurors	Paul Kane and Barry Hertz
Town Agent	Jill Broderick
Agent To Convey Real Estate	Selectmen

Article 6. Shall the voters of Burke vote to appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 to the East Burke Volunteer Fire Brigade? (Australian Ballot) YES – 224 - NO – 6 - BLANK/SPOILED – 3 = 233

Article 7. Shall the voters of Burke vote to appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 to the West Burke Volunteer Fire Department? (Australian Ballot) YES – 225 - NO – 5 - BLANK/SPOILED – 3 = 233

Article 8. Shall the voters of Burke vote to appropriate the sum of \$21,365.60 to Lyndon Rescue, Inc.? (Australian Ballot) YES – 210 - NO – 20 - BLANK/SPOILED – 3 = 233

Article 9. Shall the voters of Burke vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to assist the Area Agency on Aging for Northeastern Vermont in providing services to senior citizens in the ensuing year? (Australian Ballot) YES – 205 - NO – 26 - BLANK/SPOILED – 2 = 233

Article 10. Shall the voters of Burke vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,250.00 to help support the services of Caledonia Home Health Care? (Australian Ballot) YES – 194 - NO – 37 - BLANK/SPOILED – 2 = 233

Article 11. Shall the voters of Burke vote to appropriate the sum of \$500.00 to help support the services of Catamount Arts? (Australian Ballot) YES – 142 - NO – 87 - BLANK/SPOILED – 4 = 233

Article 12 Shall the voters of Burke vote to appropriate the sum of \$800.00 to the Cobleigh Public Library to help continue the library's many free programs and services for all area towns? (Australian Ballot) YES – 186 - NO – 45 - BLANK/SPOILED – 2 = 233

- Article 13.** Shall the voters of Burke vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,571.00 for the operation of the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium during the ensuing year, in exchange for free unlimited general admission to the Museum for all Burke Residents? (Australian Ballot) YES – 192 - NO – 39 - BLANK/SPOILED – 2 = 233
- Article 14.** Shall the voters of Burke vote to appropriate the sum of \$750.00 to the Lyndonville Youth Baseball/Softball? (Australian Ballot) YES – 163 - NO – 63 - BLANK/SPOILED – 7 = 233
- Article 15.** Shall the voters of Burke vote to appropriate the sum of \$200.00 to the Lyndon Senior Action Center, Inc.? (Australian Ballot) YES – 170 - NO – 59 - BLANK/SPOILED – 4 = 233
- Article 16.** Shall the voters of Burke vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,650.00 to the Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.? (Australian Ballot) YES – 155 - NO – 71 - BLANK/SPOILED – 7 = 233
- Article 17.** Shall the voters of Burke vote to appropriate the sum of \$200.00 to the Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, Inc.? (Australian Ballot) YES – 155 - NO – 70 - BLANK/SPOILED – 8 = 233
- Article 18.** Shall the voters of Burke vote to appropriate the sum of \$750.00 to the Northeast Kingdom Youth Services? (Australian Ballot) YES – 160 - NO – 64 - BLANK/SPOILED – 9 = 233
- Article 19.** Shall the voters of Burke vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,750.00 to the Rural Community Transportation (RCT) for services provided to residents that live in the Town of Burke? (Australian Ballot) YES – 187 - NO – 40 - BLANK/SPOILED – 6 = 233
- Article 20.** Shall the voters of Burke vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to Umbrella, Inc. to serve victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children, families seeking childcare and childcare providers? (Australian Ballot) YES – 164 - NO – 60 - BLANK/SPOILED – 9 = 233
- Article 21.** To transact any other nonbinding business that may legally come before said meeting.

With no other business to come before Town Meeting Tony DeMasi made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Esther Agnew.

Respectfully Submitted

**Priscilla Aldrich, cvc, cvt
Town Clerk and Treasurer
Town of Burke**