

**VILLAGE OF MANCHESTER, VERMONT
ANNUAL MEETING, JULY 12, 2021**

President Campbell opened the meeting at 5:08 pm. He thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and directed attention to the Warning for the meeting on page 18 of the Annual Report.

ARTICLE I: To hear the reports from the Officers.

President Campbell provided information on the location of the various reports written by representatives from each of the Village committees and boards and the report submitted by the outgoing zoning administrative officer. There were no questions or comments.

ARTICLE II: To vote on authorization for total funding expenditures to be used for operating expenses of \$782,650.00 of which \$555,150.00 shall be raised by taxes.

President Campbell directed attention to the Proposed Village Budget on pages 9 & 10 of the Annual Report. He provided an overview of the budget process and stated that this budget was largely based on historical requirements and pay increases.

Ms. Hong Campbell questioned the amount of the increase. Mr. Brodie responded by saying it was two cents for every \$100 of property value. Mr. Alstrup questioned the salt budget, compared the Village use to the Town of Manchester, and expressed environmental concerns. Trustee Lewis discussed the state buying cooperative which helps to keep the cost of salt down and mentioned that the sidewalks were also salted which contributed to some of the use.

Mr. Alstrup mentioned that the budget for salt remains the same while there is no budget for repair of the River Road rock wall. It was mentioned by the Trustees that repair of the rock wall was a topic that has been discussed for years. The fact that the wall is not completely owned by the Village was reiterated. It was agreed by President Campbell and Mr. Alstrup that this matter still needed to be

addressed. Making the road safe is the primary concern. Mr. Alstrup asked that if the Village was inclined not to maintain the wall any longer that the decision be made public and/or allow the residents to vote on the matter.

Mr. Powers questioned the \$50,000 traffic enforcement line item. Hiring a police officer, on a part-time basis to assist with traffic matters at, and around BBA is the reason behind this new line item. At this time the BOT is reviewing options for this new service. It was mentioned that there is no guarantee this money will be spent.

President Campbell took a minute to discuss the employees at the Village and their respective roles. He welcomed the road crew worker, Ben Colegrove.

Mr. Powers moved to accept the 2021/22 Village of Manchester Budget as written. Ms. Hong Campbell seconded the motion, and there was a unanimous vote in favor.

ARTICLE III: To set a date on which taxes shall be payable and impose a penalty of 8% for delinquencies, and to charge the maximum statutory rate of interest of one percent (1%) per month on all delinquencies taxes for the first three months and one and one-half percent (1.5%) per month thereafter.

Mr. Brodie moved to have this Article approved as written. Mr. Alstrup seconded the motion and there was unanimous approval.

ARTICLE IV: To vote to authorize payment of real property taxes by physical delivery to the Village Office before 5:00 pm on the due date. Payments postmarked on the due date, but not physically delivered to the Village Office, will not be considered timely.

Mr. Brodie moved to approve this Article as written. President Campbell provided a brief history of why this Article is necessary. Mr. Powers requested a sticker be placed on the tax bills, with this wording, so that notification of such will be clear to all. Ms. Hong Campbell asked is the Village accepted credit cards, Venmo, etc. for tax payments. Mr. Brodie indicated that the Village only accepted checks for tax payments at this time. Mrs. Heilemann seconded the motion and there was unanimous approval.

ARTICLE V: To elect all Officers required by law.

Trustee Lewis moved to nominate Orland Campbell as President for a one-year term. Mr. Brodie seconded the motion and there was unanimous approval.

Mr. Brodie nominated Martha Heilemann for a two-year term as Trustee. Trustee Lewis seconded the motion and there was unanimous approval. Martha Heilemann refused the nomination.

Mrs. Heilemann nominated Craig Powers for a two-year term as Trustee. Mr. Alstrup seconded the motion and there was unanimous approval. Mr. Powers refused the nomination.

Mr. Powers nominated Bill Mariano and Nina Mooney for two-year terms as Trustees. Mr. Alstrup seconded the motion and there was unanimous approval.

Mr. Powers then nominated Mr. Brodie for Clerk/Treasurer and Tax Collector for a one-year term. Mrs. Heilemann seconded the motion and there was unanimous approval.

Mr. Brodie nomination Amy Swinarton, Ariel Rudiakov and Keld Alstrup for re-appointment as Village Auditors. Mr. Powers seconded the motion and there was unanimous approval.

ARTICLE VI: To hear and discuss any other business that may properly come before the meeting, not to include any binding municipal action.

Ms. Haines asked the BOT is they were aware why the Village was seeing so many large trucks on Route 7A. The Board was unaware of any activity that would cause more than the normal traffic on Route 7A. There was general discussion regarding overweight trucks and how they are policed. Speeding was mentioned as a concerning issue. President Campbell indicated that he would forward the concerns to the Chief of the Manchester Police Department. Trustee Lewis mentioned that the school zone surrounding BBA was recently expanded and now has a 25 MPH speed limit.

Dr. Heilemann mentioned the Planning Commission upcoming public hearing.

Ms. Hong Campbell brought up concerns regarding landscape companies parking in the road and mentioned that this was a serious safety issue. President Campbell mentioned that he has spoken the Town of Manchester police chief and that the officers were not happy with this new practice either, but it is unknown at this time what can be done about it. It was also mentioned that parking in the right-of-way in the Village of Manchester is illegal.

Ms. Haines mentioned that although she was sad to see such apathy in the residents of the Village of Manchester that she was glad the meetings could be held in person again.

There being no further questions or comments, Dr. Heilemann moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Alstrup seconded the motion and there was unanimous approval.

Respectfully Submitted,
Missy Johnson, Assistant Clerk

Attested by:

Orland Campbell,
President of the BOT & Moderator

Date

Jim Lewis
Trustee, Road Commissioner & Tree Warden

Date