

**ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES OF GLOVER TOWN
MARCH 7, 2023**

The legal voters of the Town of Glover are hereby notified to meet at the Glover Town Hall in Glover Village on Tuesday, March 07, 2023 at Nine o'clock in the forenoon to act on the following business: Recite the Pledge of Allegiance

ARTICLE 1. To elect a Moderator.

Dave Simmons nominated Nicholas Ecker-Racz. No other nominations were made. Nicholas Ecker-Racz was declared elected.

ARTICLE 2. To elect a Town Clerk.

Jessica Sweeney nominated Cindy Epinette. Nick made a motion, seconded by Brian Carroll, that nominations cease and the Selectboard cast one ballot for Cindy Epinette. The motion was approved by a voice vote. Dave Simmons cast one ballot and Cindy Epinette was declared elected.

ARTICLE 3. To receive the reports of the officers of last year.

Dennis Gibson moved to accept the article, seconded by Noah Armstrong. Rebecca Young, Auditor, identified several errors in the report: on page 10 Brian Carroll is the Recycling Coordinator & NEKMD Supervisor, Hadley Piper is the NEK Broadband Representative Alternate, on page 30 "Total Town Indebtedness" figure should be (\$856,371.02) not (\$828,069.99) therefore the total "Net Worth of Town" is \$3,947996.75 not \$2,976,297.78, and on page 51 the last sentence in the Auditor's Statement should read "We recommend that accounts and records be examined on a quarterly basis". It was also noted that a Bicentennial Member-At-Large was inadvertently left off under Article 4. It was suggested that, under Article 12, the Town authorize the Selectboard to appoint the Bicentennial Member-At-Large. Article 3 was approved by voice vote.

ARTICLE 4. To elect all officers required by law for the ensuing year and fill all vacancies caused by resignation or otherwise.

To elect a Treasurer for a term of one (1) year.

Jessica Sweeney nominated Cindy Epinete. Dave Simmons made a motion, that nominations cease and the Selectboard cast one ballot for Cindy Epinette. The motion was approved by a voice vote. Dave Simmons cast one ballot and Cindy Epinette was declared elected.

To elect a Select Board Member for the term of three (3) Years.

Brian Carroll nominated Phil Young. Ty Creaser nominated Ty Creaser. Phil spoke of his hopes of continuing. Ty spoke of his hopes to join the board. John Rodgers spoke in support of Phil Young. A paper vote was conducted. 67 voters cast a ballot. 60 in favor of Phil Young, 6 in favor of Ty Creaser and 1 for Brian Carroll. Phil Young was declared elected to the Selectboard.

To elect an Auditor for the term of three (3) years.

Rebecca Young nominated Sylvia Cannizzaro. Jack Sumberg made a motion that nominations cease, and the Clerk cast one ballot for Sylvia Cannizzaro. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

To elect a Lister for the term of three (3) Years.

Ted Young nominated Ned Andrews. John Rodgers made a motion that nominations cease, and the Clerk cast one ballot for Ned Andrews. The motion was approved by a voice vote. The Clerk cast one ballot and Ned Andrews was declared elected.

To elect a Library Trustee for a term of five (5) years.

Andie Neil nominated Nancy Rodgers. John Rodgers made a motion that nominations cease, and the Clerk cast one ballot for Nancy Rodgers. The motion was approved by a voice vote. The Clerk cast one ballot and Nancy Rodgers was declared elected.

To elect a Cemetery Commissioner for the term of three (3) years.

Darlene Young nominated Theresa Perron-Janowski. Dave Simmons made a motion, seconded by John Rodgers, for nominations to cease and the Clerk cast one ballot for Theresa Perron-Janowski. The motion was approved with a voice vote. The Clerk cast one ballot and Theresa Perron-Janowski was declared elected.

To elect a Cemetery Sexton for a term of one (1) year.

Jessica Sweeney nominated Cindy Epinette. Jack made a motion, seconded by Dave Simmons, for nominations to cease and the Selectboard cast one ballot for Cindy Epinette. The motion was approved by a voice vote and Cindy Epinette was declared elected.

To elect a Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a term of one (1) year.

Jessica Sweeney nominated Cindy Epinette. Dave Simmons made a motion that nominations cease and the Selectboard cast one ballot for Cindy Epinette. The motion was approved by a voice vote. The Selectboard cast one ballot and Cindy Epinette was declared elected.

Dennis Gibson made a motion, seconded by John Rodgers, to suspend the meeting and allow Katherine Simms, Vermont Representative, to give a legislative update. The motion was approved with a voice vote. The meeting was suspended at 9:58am.

The meeting resumed at 10:25am.

To elect a First Constable for the term of one (1) year.

Jessica Sweeney nominated Job Breitmeyer. John Rodgers made a motion, seconded by Brian Carroll, for nominations to cease and the Clerk cast one Ballot for Job Breitmeyer. The motion was approved by a voice vote. The Clerk cast one ballot and Job Breitmeyer was declared elected.

To elect a Second Constable for a term of one (1) year.

Jessica Sweeney nominated Cindy Epinette. Jack Sumberg made a motion, seconded by Brian Carroll, for nominations to cease and the Selectboard cast one ballot for Cindy Epinette. The motion was approved by the majority of the public. There was one objection voiced. The Selectboard cast one ballot and Cindy Epinette was declared elected.

To elect an Agent to deed town owned property for a term of one (1) year.

Jack Sumberg nominated Cindy Epinette. Brian Carroll made a motion that nominations cease and the Selectboard cast one ballot for Cindy Epinette. The motion was approved by a voice vote. The Selectboard cast one ballot and Cindy Epinette was declared elected.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise \$1,016,656.04 by taxes to be assessed by the Select Board to pay incidental expenses and its several taxes required by law.

Richard Epinette made the motion to accept the article, seconded by Chris Braithwaite.

John Rodgers inquired as to why access to the sand pit is being blocked. He stated he gets truck loads of sand so he can sand the driveways of his clients, many of whom are senior citizens, and he does not charge any of his clients for the sand. Phil Young has been in contact with VLCT regarding this question. They indicated it is a public safety/liability issue, if the sand were to cave in or someone were to get injured while collecting the sand.

Dick Trucott also stated his objection to the sand pit being blocked. He sands driveways for senior citizens as well and does not charge those folks for the sand. Howard Cantor suggested increasing the budget to allow for the purchase of more sand. However, it was noted that the town has never run out of sand. It was suggested more sand be made available to the public, outside of the sand pit. The Selectboard indicated they have been given enough information to move forward.

Tabitha Armstrong inquired as to why the liability and workers compensation budget was so high. Dave Simmons indicated the 2022 budget included one-time credits from VLCT. VLCT did not provide any credits in 2023.

Clare Dolan inquired about the remaining ARPA balance and if another round of applications were going to be considered to request those funds. Leanne indicated there was \$40,000 available and yes, the Board would be open to reviewing applications for the remaining funds.

The article was approved by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to hire money to purchase approximately 8 acres of the Greensboro Gravel Pit located in Glover, Vermont.

Richard Epinette made a motion, seconded by Jack Sumberg, to accept the article.

Tabitha Armstrong requested more information about this article. Dave Simmons explained that Glover had made an offer to the Town of Greensboro to purchase 8 acres of the 75 acres Greensboro owned in Glover. The Town of Greensboro declined the initial offer and now Glover is waiting for Greensboro to make a counter offer. Ken Borland suggested using the Property Reserve Funds to purchase the land instead of borrowing/financing the purchase, when the time comes.

The article was approved by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to collect property taxes on or before 5pm on November 16, 2023, as provided in T32, Section 4792 V.S.A. and postmarks are not accepted as proof of payment.

Dave Simmons made a motion, seconded by Darlene Young, to accept the article.

John Rodgers inquired as to why the 2% discount for paying taxes early was eliminated. Jack Sumberg stated it reduced the amount of taxes collected but did not reduce the expenses of the town.

The article was approved by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to have taxes collected by the Treasurer as provided in T32, Section 4791-92 V.S.A.

Rebecca Young made a motion, seconded by Dennis Gibson, to accept the article. The article was approved by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote \$300.00 per mile or more for Class 1, 2 and 3 Town Highways under Provisions of T19, Section 307 V.S.A.

Jack Sumberg made a motion to accept the article, seconded by Topher Waring. The article was approved by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will appropriate a total of \$24,289 to the individual agencies and services listed in the 2023 column of the 2022-2023 Appropriations Comparison list; and taxes to be assessed by the Select Board.

APPROPRIATIONS COMPARISON

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
American Legion	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
American Red Cross of NH & VT	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Barton Area Senior Services Inc.	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
Big Heavy World	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Craftsbury Community Care Center	\$ 500.00	\$ 750.00
Glover Bicentennial Scholarship	\$ 1,000.00	
Glover Pioneer Camp	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Green Mountain Farm to School	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
Green Up Vermont	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
N C Friends of the VT Symphony Orchestra	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
North Woods Stewardship Center	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Northeast Kingdom Human Services, Inc.	\$ 2,244.00	\$ 2,244.00
Northeast Kingdom Learning Services, Inc.	\$ 200.00	\$ 250.00
Notheast Kingdom Council on Aging	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Orleans - Essex VNA & Hospice, Inc.	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00
Orleans County Citizen Advocacy	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Orleans County Citizen Child Advocacy Center	\$ 350.00	\$ 350.00
Orleans County Fair Association	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Orleans County Historical Society	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00
Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter, Inc.	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Rural Community Transportation, Inc.	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00
Shadow Lake Association (Boat Wash)	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,500.00
Umbrella, Inc.	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00
Vermont Center for Independent Living	\$ 245.00	\$ 245.00
Vermont Family Network	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
VT Assoc. for the Blind & Visually Impaired	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00
VT Rural Fire Protection (Dry Hydrant)	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
	<u>\$ 25,489.00</u>	<u>\$ 24,289.00</u>

Richard Epinette made a motion to accept the article, seconded by Darlene Young. Davi Bock inquired if we should increase the allocations based on inflation. Leanne stated that these are the amounts each organization has requested, the town does not set the amounts.

Chris Braithwaite inquired if Barton Area Senior Services, Inc had submitted a request for funds. Dave Simmons indicated no, since they are using the basement of the town hall, they did not request additional financial support. It was noted that the Glover Bicentennial Scholarship request is absent. Leanne stated it has been changed to a line item in the budget. Jen Andrews was given permission to provide an update on what is happening with Shadow Lake Association and thanked the town for supporting the Boat Wash program.

After going through the list of appropriations, the article was approved as presented, with a voice vote.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to have the 2023 Annual Meeting start at 9:00 A.M. on March 05, 2024

Jack Sumberg made a motion to accept the article, seconded by Gerry Trevits. The article was approved by a voice vote.

ARTICLE 12. To do and transact any other nonbinding business that may legally come before this meeting.

Peggy Day Gibson shared information about the Trails Committee. The Black Hills have been opened for public access, excluding motorized vehicles. The next committee meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2023 at 7pm in the Town Hall. A trail maintenance work day is scheduled for May 20, 2023. If you are interested in opening your land for public access please contact Peggy. The Trails Committee also received ARPA funds to build a Pump Track at Glover Park, and install handicap accessibility to Shadow Lake

Howard Cantor requested more information about a proposed wind turbine to be built on Auger Heights. Dave Simmons acknowledged the Selectboard has received notification of a proposed 200 foot turbine being built. There is no additional information available at this time.

Brian Carroll expressed appreciation for all the work the Equity Committee is doing.

Noah Armstrong gave an update on NEK Broadband. He could not provide a date in which work would begin in Glover

Doug Safford requested an update on the tire recycling business on the piece of property on Route 16. Dave Simmons indicated the State of Vermont is involved and is reviewing the situation.

Tyler Scelza inquired about paving Shadow Lake road. Dave Simmons indicated the section from Stone Shore road to Inlet Cove road is the next section scheduled for paving, in three year, when the town is eligible for State funding. The road will not be ground up due to opposition from the folks around Shadow Lake. It was stated that leaving the road unpaved would create too much dust for home/camp owners around the lake. Jen Andrews was granted permission to speak. She indicated another reason for not grinding the pavement and leaving it as a dirt road is due to run-off into the lake. John Rodgers suggested the roughest sections be re-filled. Tyler Scelza suggested putting staymat in the rough sections as well. Tabitha Armstrong suggested increasing the amount we put into the Paving Reserve Fund so we do not have to wait for State funding assistance every three years.

Randy Williams stated the Planning Commission has applied for a second Municipal Planning Grant to help fund projects on the Glover Green. They are planning to hire a grant writer to help wade through the funding process. The Planning Commission is scheduled to meet the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Randy Williams also mentioned the Farmer's Market is scheduled to begin on the first Sunday in June and end the first Sunday in September, the hours are 10:30am - 2pm.

Richard Epinette made a motion, seconded by Rebecca Young, to authorize the Selectboard to appoint a Bicentennial Member-At-Large. Carmella Young asked what is required of the Member-At-Large. Leanne Harple indicated it was a clerical and organizational position only. The Committee meets once a year to review scholarship applications. Carmella Young volunteered to be the Member-At-Large. The motion was approved with a voice vote.

Chris Braithwaite inquired about the need to list the delinquent taxpayers in the Annual Town Report. He made a motion, seconded by Noah Armstrong, to not include the taxpayers who paid by December 31st. This motion was approved by a voice vote.

Dennis Gibson made a motion, seconded by Tabitha Armstrong, to eliminate including the names of the delinquent taxpayers from the Annual Town Report completely. The motion was approved with a voice vote.

ARTICLE 13. To Adjourn.

Brian Carroll made a motion, seconded by Dennis Gibson, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 12:05pm

Dated March 7, 2023

David Simmons- Chair

Cynthia Epinette
Town Clerk

Nicholas M. Ecker-Racz
Moderator