

CALAIS TOWN WARNING March 1, 2016

The legal voters of the Town of Calais are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Calais Elementary School on Tuesday, the first day of March A.D. 2016, to transact the following business and to vote by Australian ballot from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on those Articles so noted and on the Calais Elementary School budget. The School Meeting will start at 9 a.m. and Town Meeting will immediately follow at approximately 9:30 a.m.

ARTICLE 1. To choose a moderator for the coming year.

ARTICLE 2. To elect by Australian ballot all town and school officers so required, including one selectboard member, three auditors, a lister, two Calais Elementary School directors.

ARTICLE 3. To vote by Australian ballot on the following questions: Shall the Town of Calais Land Use and Development Regulations which were adopted by the voters of the town on March 1, 2005 and last amended on March 4, 2014 be further amended as recommended to the voters after public hearings by the Calais Planning Commission on October 20, 2015 and by the Calais Selectboard on December 14, 2015?

ARTICLE 4. To provide the opportunity to ask questions regarding the reports in the Town Report, including but not limited to the Cemetery Commission, Conservation Commission, Planning Commission, Historic Preservation Commission and Selectboard.

ARTICLE 5. Shall the voters approve total highway and general fund expenditures of \$1,385,315 of which \$1,050,340 shall be raised by taxes and \$334,975 by non-tax revenue? See "FY2017 Tax Request and Estimated Tax Rate" page in the town report for the expense and income figures making up this request. Additional monies appropriated in the Warning articles are in addition to these expenditures.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the town will appropriate the sum of \$2,700 for the Calais Swim Program.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the town will appropriate the sum of \$4,000 for the ensuing tax year, to be transferred to the reserve fund established pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 2804 for conservation and other lawful purposes of the fund.

ARTICLE 8. To elect all other necessary officials for the year ensuing, including a law agent, a town grand juror, a trustee of public funds, a cemetery commissioner and an agent to convey real estate. (The *law agent* assists in litigation at the request of the selectboard. The *town grand juror* helps to prosecute criminal offenses that occur in the town by giving information to law enforcement officials. The *trustees of public funds* are responsible for managing public funds, specifically cemetery funds. *Cemetery commissioners* are responsible for the care and management of cemeteries. Real estate owned by the town may be conveyed by an *agent* elected for that purpose.)

ARTICLE 9: Shall the voters adopt the Calais Town Plan, and any amendments to the Plan, by Australian ballot vote pursuant to 23 V.S.A. §4385(c)? Currently the Town Plan is approved and amended by the Selectboard?

ARTICLE 10. To see if the town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$7,500 for the second phase of a two-phase natural resource inventory to identify the town's significant natural resources to support the planning process.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the town will vote to establish a "Cemetery Fund" for the purpose of retaining any cemetery fund balance available at the end of the fiscal year, to be used for deferred maintenance and unforeseen expenses; and authorize the treasurer, on behalf of the cemetery commissioners, to apply any cemetery fund balance at the end of the fiscal year to the "Cemetery Fund."

ARTICLE 12. To see if the town will appropriate the sum of \$14,000 for cemetery special projects and deferred maintenance, to include fence repair and replacement, and stone repair and washing.

ARTICLE 13. Shall the town appropriate a sum not to exceed \$36,500 for an addition to the town garage to accommodate an office, a break room and a mechanical room?

ARTICLE 14. To see if the town will vote to establish a “Calais Computer, Software and Technology Reserve Fund” to cover future purchases of technology-related equipment to include computers, servers, printers, copy machine.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the town will appropriate the following sums to the respective reserve funds:

- \$25,000 to be deposited to the Calais Highway Heavy Equipment Reserve Fund;
- \$5,000 to be deposited to the Calais Computer, Software and Technology Reserve Fund;
- \$20,000 to be deposited to the Town Office and Town Hall Reserve Fund.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the town will appropriate the sum of \$17,963, contingent upon the awarding of a structures grant from the State of Vermont, for construction of the North Calais retaining wall. The total estimated project cost is \$179,627 with the State paying 90% (\$161,664) and the town paying 10% (\$17,963).

ARTICLE 17. To see if the town will authorize the selectboard to purchase a 10-wheel truck to replace the eight-year-old 10-wheel truck at a cost not to exceed \$168,000 to be financed over a period of five years. The first loan payment will take place in fiscal year 2018.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the town will authorize the selectboard to use \$25,000 of the Calais Highway Heavy Equipment Fund to pay for fiscal year 2017 heavy equipment purchases and loans.

ARTICLE 19. To see if the voters will approve the following: Whereas, the earth’s temperature continues its historically rapid rise, polar ice is melting at an increasing rate, and we seem to be experiencing more extreme weather events than in the past; Whereas, scientists largely agree the temperature rise is the cause of the changing weather, the rise is primarily caused by the combustion of fossil fuels and, unless these emissions are cut substantially, we will leave to future generations a much less desirable place to live; Whereas, Calais town government and its various committees have the ability to effect the reduction of fossil fuel use through decisions about town infrastructure and operations, through education and assistance to residents to reduce their fossil fuel use and through implementing climate sensitive requirements in land use regulations;

Resolved, all elements of Calais government and committees should take all responsible and legal actions within their respective subject areas and in collaboration with others to reduce fossil fuel use by the town’s operations and to assist residents to do the same.

Further Resolved, the selectboard or its designee should provide a report on progress under this resolution in the 2016 town report.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the town will appropriate the sum of \$25,760 for the Kellogg Hubbard Library for its operating expenses.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the town will vote to have all property taxes paid to the treasurer, as provided by law and without discount, in two equal installments as follows: The first installment will be due on or before 4:00 p.m. 30 days after the tax bills are mailed, but not earlier than August 1, 2016, and the second installment will be due on or before 4:00 p.m. on November 15, 2016.

ARTICLE 22. To see if the town will vote to institute a grace period after the established due dates of payments of property taxes as provided in 32 V.S.A. § 1674(3)(B). The grace period for the first payment will be two weeks after the due date. The grace period for the second payment will extend through November 29, 2016.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the town will vote to contribute \$2,000 to the Calais Historical Society for the reprinting of the Calais history book “Forever Calais.” Total print cost is \$8,000 for 200 copies.

ARTICLE 24: Shall the town authorize the selectboard to replace the “Calais General Fund Contingency Reserve Fund” with a “Calais General and Highway Contingency Reserve Fund” to cover unanticipated revenue shortfalls and pay nonrecurring and unanticipated expenses, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2804(a)?

ARTICLE 25: Shall the town authorize the selectboard to apply any General Fund surplus at the end of the fiscal year to the “Calais General and Highway Contingency Reserve Fund,” with the fund to be capped at \$50,000, and with any surplus remaining going to reduce next year’s taxes?

ARTICLE 26. To see if the town will appropriate the sums of money requested by the following organizations in Calais and the Central Vermont area, as follows:

Calais Community Connections	\$1,000
Central Vermont Basic Education	\$1,000
Central Vermont Community Action Council	\$ 300
Central Vermont Council on Aging	\$1,400
Central Vermont Economic Development Corp	\$ 500
Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice	\$3,200
Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center	\$ 800
Circle (formerly Battered Womens Services)	\$ 700
Family Center of Washington County	\$ 500
Friends of Winooski River	\$ 300
Good Beginnings of Central Vermont	\$ 300
Green Mountain Transit Agency	\$ 859
Greenup Vermont	\$ 100
Home Share Now	\$ 400
Montpelier Senior Center	\$3,200
Peoples Health and Wellness Clinic	\$1,500
Sexual Assault Crisis Team	\$ 200
Twin Valley Senior Center	\$2,000
Vermont Association for the Blind	\$ 650
Vermont Center for Independent Living	\$ 415
Washington County Diversion Program	\$ 300
Washington County Youth Service Bureau	\$ 500
Woodbury/Calais Foodshelf	\$ 300
Retired & Senior Volunteer Services	\$ 200
Washington County Mental Health Services	<u>\$1,400</u>
TOTAL	\$22,024

ARTICLE 27. To see if the town will appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be deposited to the “Calais/East Montpelier Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund” for the Calais portion of future fire department equipment purchases in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2804(a).

ARTICLE 28. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

ARTICLE 29. To adjourn the meeting.

Dated at Calais this 25th day of January 2016 by Calais Selectboard:

Denise Wheeler, Chair

John Brabant, Vice Chair

Scott Bassage

Rose Pelchuck

Toby Talbot

Filed in Calais Town Office on January 26, 2016 at 8 a.m. and duly recorded before posting.

Attest,

Donna E. Fitch, Town Clerk