

# Town of Calais, Vermont

CHARTERED 1781

## Town Meeting Minutes

*Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 9:30 am at the Calais Elementary School*

**ARTICLE 1.** To elect a Moderator for the ensuing year:

The Town Clerk presided over the election of a moderator. Denise Wheeler motioned to nominate Gus Seelig. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

The Moderator thanked the Town office staff, Artie Toulis (providing audio services) and the crew working on lunch. He mentioned that the meeting is being recorded and reviewed the rules and best practice for Town Meeting, which follows Robert's Rules of Order. In encouraging civility, he reminded folks to address the moderator, rather than getting into a passionate discussion with another participant. He pointed out the appropriate places to bring up issues not listed in the warning are under Article 2 and Other Business.

**ARTICLE 2.** To ask questions about the reports of town boards and officers:

Chris Cadorette, Calais School Board member, encouraged residents to support the Calais PTNO's events and offerings, which are advertised on FPF. He also raised awareness of the central Vermont-based organization "Freezing Fun for Families," whose purpose is to relieve stress and financial burden for families with children battling cancer. Donna Fitch thanked the Calais Cemetery Commission for going out to bid on mowing and saving \$21,000. Katie Reed, Calais School Board, said the ballots' printed school budget amount is correct, but the amount per equalized pupil is incorrect. The state provided relevant information after the date the ballots were required to be printed, resulting in a slight change: the equalized cost per pupil is projected to be \$16,720, an increase of 5.08%. Mary Jacobsen, member of North Calais Memorial Hall Association (NCMHA), thanked the Calais Conservation Commission for their recommendation to the Selectboard of approval of funding for repairs to Memorial Hall. She invited voters to add their voices through a survey so NCMHA can learn more about what Memorial Hall means to members of the community. Stephanie Kaplan, chair of the Calais Conservation Commission, spoke about the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)'s impact in Calais. Towns across Vermont are working on plans to address EAB impact. The Calais Conservation Commission's plan involves creation of an inventory (a free training for volunteers will happen on March 16, 1 pm at the MCCC) at which volunteers learn to use an app on mobile devices to compile data for a Calais town-wide ash tree inventory. This is being supported by a \$2,000 grant from VT Urban & Community Forestry Program, Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation and more information will be found in town-wide mailing this month.

Craig Line inquired about a number of items in the Selectboard Report. In regard to funds the Town Hall renovation project has taken in, Donna Fitch responded that they have received \$204,815 in donations (some of which are at this time anonymous), plus the \$200,000 loan that voters approved in 2018. A \$30,000 grant was received from the VT Arts Council; this results in total funds of \$473,763 received. She and John McCullough shared details on changes to estimated costs as construction proceeded and stated that the renovation is going to require some additional fundraising for expenses such as countertops and exterior painting. John McCullough reported that the initial estimated cost (provided by an architect) was over \$800,000; it will be accomplished in the neighborhood of \$500,000 thanks in part to the "hyper local approach" the committee is trying to save as much money as possible. Craig Line expressed concern over fossil fuel use for heating the building and asked that heating system fuel be reconsidered. John McCullough stated that the planned heating system is hydronic (radiant floor); only a certain level of efficiency can be expected to be gotten out of a large old building (which a heat pump could not accomplish). A wood pellet boiler would be a possible option. Craig Line asked about returning Town Meeting's location to the Town Hall; Denise Wheeler said that a decision on future Town Meeting location hasn't been made yet.

**ARTICLE 3.** To elect the following Town officers from the floor:

Town Agent: Denise Wheeler nominated Tina Bielenberg for a 1-year term. Clif Emmons seconded. A motion was made to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot for Tina Bielenberg; the motion was seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee of Public Funds: Rodney Buck nominated Steve Killoran for a 3-year term and Donna Fitch seconded. Barry

Bernstein moved to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot for Steve Killoran. The motion was seconded by Rodney Buck and carried unanimously.

Cemetery Commissioner: A nomination was made for John Simanskas for a 5-year term; the motion was seconded. Tina Bielenberg motioned to close nominations and have the Clerk cast one ballot for John Simanskas. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

**ARTICLE 4.** Shall the voters approve total highway and general fund expenditures of \$1,606,264 of which \$1,305,229 shall be raised by taxes and \$301,035 by non-tax revenue?

Denise Wheeler moved to approve this article, and the motion was seconded. Carolyn Morton was recognized and read a prepared statement regarding winter road conditions in Calais, acknowledging climate change's impact on changing weather and resultant road conditions and the Selectboard's invitation to public meetings for community discussion on this issue (the first one set for March 18, 7pm, at the Calais Town Office). She appreciated the work of the Road Commissioner, Operations Manager and the road crew, and simultaneously encouraged the Town to create a committee to do a comprehensive study and reevaluation of Calais' current road policies. This committee could serve to carry out research, brainstorming and constructive planning, which would take time, patience, creativity and money. **Carolyn Morton made a motion to increase the total highway and general funds expenditures by \$49,280.** This figure represents a 20% increase of the FY2020 total road maintenance budget, with the stated purpose of this increase to be used by the Selectboard, as it sees fit, to improve winter roads safety. This translates to adding approximately 2.5 cents to the tax rate, or \$24.50 per \$100,000 of assessed property value. The motion was seconded by Ginny Sassaman.

Mack Gardner-Morse commented on the problem of cars driving too fast on Calais winter roads and his opinion that the budget remain the same and have people purchase good snow tires for their cars. Art Edelstein commented on the global nature of the issue of climate change and the need for a statewide plan to investigate what the new paradigm in the Northeast is, and what should be the plan (informed by climate scientists). He said he sees throwing money at the issue is putting the cart before the horse, and the assembly chuckled at his observation that a timely and profitable business model is front-end auto repair and selling tires. Candy Smith stated her opposition to the amendment and inquired whether the Town has a reserve fund to utilize for situations such as needing more sand, if this is what is decided is needed at the upcoming community meetings? The Selectboard Chair pointed out that the fund created by the Town a few years ago to receive surplus funds and allow utilization by the Selectboard as needed was the Highway Equipment Fund. Candy Smith questioned road maintenance planning practices, and her opinion that more people need to be involved.

Larry Bush inquired about why the sand budget line item was not increased for FY20. Denise Wheeler stated that the Town budgeted for sand based on previous years' amounts needed. Most towns are experiencing the same issue as Calais this year (having already spent beyond the budgeted amount for FY19, having purchased more, and requiring more still). One issue that will need to be addressed as a result of an increased need for sand quantity is space (for storing sand). Katie Reed agreed on the need to drive slowly and buy good tires, but observed that this winter has included dangerous situations beyond such precautions such as school bus accidents. Craig Line asked how Carolyn came up with the number for the proposed amendment; she stated that her attempt was to make a significant enough amount that there are actual practical results from the amount (she calculated a 20% increase to the road budget for winter maintenance). Carolyn expressed her sense of urgency about the roads, seeing a need for an improvement this same winter, and her opinion that the Selectboard is trustworthy in managing the budget. Craig Line asked the Road Commissioner and the Selectboard to budget more in the future for sand and stated his support for the amendment.

Barry Bernstein, WEC President, stated that WEC is facing the same issues and their budget will be increased by a substantial amount over the next few years for the same reasons. He asked the Selectboard to clarify whether they are supportive of the amendment and the amount. He thanked the Road Commissioner and crew. Denise Wheeler explained details of the size of the road (from 11/1/18 to 3/1/19 so far four full time employees have worked, 904 hours of overtime this winter, and three part time people have worked 306 hours this winter; winter is not yet over and we still have "mud season"). She asked residents to remember that the road crew's work is very much appreciated and trusted by the Selectboard; in the winter, they are often working 12-hour days. Mary Alice Proffitt asked whether the Selectboard has the authority to go over budget for sand (Denise Wheeler responded that yes it does). She encouraged all who are concerned on this matter to come to the scheduled meeting and her opinion that the discussion needs to be extended to involve the state level of support. She expressed trust for the Selectboard but the benefit of having the public discussion forums to create a budget that specifies what exactly this money would be paying for (staff, materials, etc.). Rick Kehne stated his support for putting more resources in if the Selectboard deems it necessary, and his concern at such high numbers of overtime hours (is this part of a longer trend that points to increased staff needs?).

He asked the Selectboard whether they support this money as a stopgap measure. Denise Wheeler and Sharon Winn Fannon stated that the Board is convening a series of meetings around this issue for the purpose of defining what is needed in meeting the current challenges of winter roads maintenance; the spirit of the amendment would be to have money available for use after the public forums define what is needed. Denise Wheeler stated that the Board doesn't have a position as a Board, since it is just now hearing the amendment. Denise Wheeler stated that one option being investigated is "putting up" an additional sand pile in another location in Town or elsewhere to reduce the number of times the trucks must return to the Town Garage to reload thus saving time and fuel consumption.

John Brabant described the school bus and log truck collision that occurred on Lightening Ridge Road this winter, which occurred at a very slow speed (maybe five miles per hour). He stated that the ice underneath fast falling snow was not allowing traction from the sand that was laid on it, he described it as like walking on BB's. The Road Commissioner had plowed and sanded immediately before the bus collision. The bus driver descending the hill could not steer without applying brakes (there was no traction whatsoever). The wheels were using spinner chains (used for ascending uphill, but not helping with downhill traction). The school bus tires were flat profile and the rear wheel tires were not snow tires; John Brabant said that the Selectboard and School Board plan to meet to discuss how to address many issues including contracts with bus companies in terms of the tire needs in this changing winter environment. Tina Golon commented on her concerns about poor road conditions and her support of the amendment and the idea to have a second sand pile. Ginny Sassaman commended Carolyn in offering the civil and thoughtful approach to an amendment. She stated that climate change is here now, and we are facing big problems that require a multi-angle approach, including allocating funds.

Rose Hayes called attention to where the Town Report shows a surplus amount that was rolled into the Highway Equipment Fund, and asked if that could be used. John Brabant commented that it could be reallocated with the voters' approval. The Town Treasurer clarified that a few years ago, the voters decided that Highway surplus goes into Highway Equipment Fund (this could, for example, result from grant funds received). Pam DeAndrea stated her support for addressing climate change, but as a voter, she wants to know exactly what the money is going to be used for; she said there should be planning before asking for funds. **Paul Hannan offered an amendment to the amendment to authorize the Selectboard to take up to \$30,000 out of an already existing fund (the Highway Equipment Fund), without raising new taxes, in accord with original amendment, to be used at the Selectboard's discretion for winter roads. The amendment to the amendment was seconded.** The Town Treasurer shared details such as: the current Highway Equipment Fund balance is around \$40,000 (and she would need to check what payments have been made from the fund recently to give a more accurate number). The Moderator stated that this legislative body established the reserve fund, and given the tone of this discussion, he judged it appropriate to proceed with this amendment to the amendment (without necessitating a warning). Aaron Wheeler stated that everyone does need winter tires and can make decisions to limit travels, but there are still limits to the amount of staff and trucks the Town has; staff working so many hours of overtime may indicate the Town needs more staff and possibly another truck. The Town Treasurer pointed out that in the construction of the FY20 budget, the Selectboard and road crew met many times. The new truck lease payment was planned to come out of the reserve fund for FY20 in an effort to keep the budget under control. **Paul Hannan asked to withdraw his motion and urged the body defeat the original amendment.**

A motion was made to call the question and end debate, which was seconded and passed. The Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. The motion appeared to fail, and a division of the house was requested. Paper hand ballots were voted, counted and the proposed amendment was defeated. The moderator invited further discussion on the main article.

Craig Line stated his opinion that the overall increase to the budget seems too high. He asked questions about specific line items, and the Selectboard explained in detail regarding the Highway Operations Manager line item (salary has been separated out this year to increase transparency); the Selectboard Administrator position (it had been eliminated, and duties have been reassigned to split the workload and save money); the cost of the annual audit (the Town Auditor position has not been able to be filled, and so a professional audit has been required to fulfill statute requirements); COTTS digitization of the land records (maintaining land records is one of the primary functions of the town office and COTTS will put index cards into a digital, searchable database that prevents disaster such as in flood or fire). Clif Emmons continued that the process will involve scanning 30,000 paper records and creating a searchable database (COTTS is the name of the company that will provide the work). Denise Wheeler further explained that the Town Treasurer salary increase and establishment of an Assistant Town Treasurer position (the current Town Treasurer is paid for 32 hours a week, while she is working 40-50 hours per week and taking on new duties such as grant administration, Personnel Administration, Human Resources, etc.; the Assistant Town Treasurer is needed to be in

compliance with State internal control requirements). Pam DeAndrea inquired about the Town Office Reserve Fund; Denise Wheeler stated that it is for regular repairs for the Town Office (painting the exterior, fixing the roof). In previous years this amount was included in the line item for the Town Hal/Town Office Reserve and for greater transparency the two line items have been separated. Marialisa Calta inquired the amount of the COTTS digitization; the Town Treasurer clarified that COTTS manages the digital land records, and NEMRC is the software provider of the financial suite, including the Grand List and dog license module. The Town is under contract with NEMRC at \$1200 a year which includes complete support for all modules. This is a reduction from last year's support of software (Accountants World/Quickbooks) which was over \$4,000. Cornelia Carey made a suggestion that line items showing significant variation from one year to the next, for example 20% or more, may best be addressed with a short narrative. Mr. Bernstein observed the 4.25% increase from one fiscal year to the next is pretty good.

Candi Smith asked whether the equipment reserve fund requires a vote for approval of expenses. She asked if the Selectboard Administrator line item could be eliminated and the compensation be moved into the salaries of other positions who are performing that work. Denise Wheeler clarified that the Selectboard Administrator line item is being used to compensate for her work performing some of those duties and the increase in duties of the Treasurer, Clerk and Assistant.

A motion was made to call the question, which was seconded and passed. The Moderator called for a vote on the article and the article passed.

**ARTICLE 5.** Shall the voters appropriate \$27,132 for the Kellogg Hubbard Library for its operating expenses?

The article was moved and seconded. Craig Line, Calais Representative on the Kellogg Hubbard Board of Trustees, reviewed statistics on the many offerings of the library, and the past year's results of private fundraising. The library is not requesting any increase in Calais (each town is asked to pay \$17 per capita, compared to a statewide average of \$30 per capita). Executive Director Tom McKone has announced his retirement and the Board is in the process of seeking a new director. The Moderator called for a vote on the article. The article passed.

**ARTICLE 6.** Shall the voters appropriate \$39,000 for the operation and maintenance of the Town cemeteries?

The article was moved and seconded. **Jennifer Whitman made an amendment to raise the amount to \$40,500 and pass over Article 7.** She shared background information: Poplar Cemetery's organization plans to disband, and has made the request to give the money they were requesting in Article 7 to the Calais Cemetery Commission, who would then in good faith try to maintain it for one more year. (Poplar Cemetery is located in Calais above North Montpelier Pond.) Until the present, it has been maintained by a private organization. There is statute that could require maintenance of the cemetery to become the responsibility of the Town of Calais. Denise Wheeler seconded the amendment. Paul Hannan mentioned the bank erosion the cemetery experienced as a result of hurricane Irene.

The amendment to the article was voted on and passed; the article was voted on and passed.

**ARTICLE 7.** Shall the voters appropriate \$1,500 to assist in the operation and maintenance of Poplar Hill Cemetery a private cemetery?

It was moved and seconded to pass over this article; the motion passed.

State Representative Janet Ancel addressed the meeting and mentioned her lengthy update in Front Porch Forum and invited voters to contact her with any questions or comments. She discussed a number of legislative efforts still in play in the middle of the legislative year, including increase in the minimum wage, a paid leave program, funding for clean waters and child care. She discussed a bill from her committee work last year that would have shifted \$60 million from property tax to income tax, but the bill died in the senate, and her continued communication with colleagues in the senate around it. She acknowledged the judge made a decision not to issue a preliminary injunction regarding Act 46; a bill she introduced that passed the house that did create a delay for a handful of towns, including Calais, is now in the senate and she will continue to work on that with senators.

Tina Golon discussed the property transfer tax and the intended purpose of that tax to fund affordable housing, and inquired where these funds have been reallocated and what she could do to get the money reallocated to actually be used for affordable housing. Rep. Ancel reported that it was set up for housing and conservation and has been used over the years to cover other general fund responsibilities. Gus Seelig (Housing and Conservation Trust Fund), in response to Tina's question about what she could do to ensure property transfer tax monies are used as intended for housing, said it would be helpful if the Realtors Association speak about this at the Statehouse and added their voice

asking that funds not be diverted. Peter Johnke (VT Center for Independent Living Deputy Director) agreed and followed up asked about a bill requiring the transfer tax not be diverted, but go to the VT Housing and Conservation Board, from which it can be used by the VCIL in tangible ways to make homes accessible to help people stay in their homes. Rep Ancel commented that the current law requires the monies go to the Housing Trust Fund, and a new bill would not be binding in the future. Another bill in her committee is in regard to down payment assistance for first time homebuyers.

Mack Gardner-Morse asked the Representative to introduce legislation to change the structure of how education is done in this state, by the legislature dissolving the appointed State Board of Education. She replied that this could be done. Rick Kehne expressed his opinion that when monies which are supposed to be directed to low income housing are diverted, it points to a lack of discipline of the legislature who allows this money to be reallocated without voters' approval. He stated his distrust of Rep. Ancel as a result of the Act 46 process, and his desire for better accountability from Rep. Ancel. He described his experience in the legislative hearings and his witnessing that the Act 46 guiding force has been money, with local communities losing their voice in the process. Rep. Ancel responded that moving funds is not an unusual government practice, but she takes issue with moving funds away from important programs like low income housing. She invited Rick Kehne to speak with her privately instead of at the meeting. MaryAlice Proffitt thanked Janet Ancel for her service and conservative approach to making sure people are paying attention to how taxpayer dollars are utilized.

**ARTICLE 8.** Shall the voters appropriate the indicated sums as 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 Council on Aging	\$1,400
Central Vermont Development Corp	\$500
Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice	\$3,600
Central Vermont Memorial Civic Center	\$800
Circle (Formerly Battered Women's Services & Shelter)	\$700
Family Center of Washington County	\$500
Friends of Winooski River	\$300
Good Beginnings of Central Vermont	\$300
Green Mountain Transit	\$859
Greenup Vermont	\$100
Home Share Now	\$600
Montpelier Senior Center	\$4,300
Old West Church	\$100
Peoples Health and Wellness Clinic	\$1,500
Sexual Assault Crisis Team	\$200
Twin Valley Senior Center	\$3,000
Vermont Association for the Blind	\$650
Vermont Center for Independent Living	\$800
Washington County Diversion Program	\$300
Washington County Youth Service Bureau	\$500
Woodbury/Calais Foodshelf	\$380
Washington County Mental Health Services	\$1,400
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$24,789</b>

The Moderator shared that there is no longer a Town committee advising on the details of this article. The article was moved and seconded, and discussion ensued. Barry Bernstein stated that it is the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VCIL and he appreciated Calais resident Peter Johnke, Deputy Director of the VCIL, for his organization's continuous work over four decades. Craig Line asked if action had been taken to form a committee to advise on this article. John Brabant asked Craig Line to take the lead on creating a committee; he refused. Wilson Hughes, Cornelia Carey, Barry Bernstein, Mack and Cindy Gardener-Morse and Fletcher Dean volunteered to form a committee for next year to review the social services requests. The article was voted and passed.

**ARTICLE 9.** Shall the voters authorize payment of property taxes in two equal installments, with the due date of the first installment on or before 4:00 p.m. on a date that falls not less than 30 days after the tax bills are mailed, but not

earlier than August 1, 2019, and the due date of the second installment shall be on or before 4:00 p.m. on Friday, November 15, 2019?

The article was moved and seconded, and discussion ensued. Mack Gardner-Morse asked the Selectboard to consider quarterly payments. The article was voted and passed.

**ARTICLE 10.** Shall each property tax installment payment be made via one of the following three options:

- 1) by delivery to the Treasurer by 4:00 p.m. on or before the due dates as set forth in Article 9;
- 2) by U.S. Postal Service, with postmark on or before the due dates as set forth in Article 9; or
- 3) by credit card payment via [www.calaisvermont.gov](http://www.calaisvermont.gov), by 4:00 p.m. on or before the due dates as set forth in Article 9?

The article was moved and seconded, and discussion ensued. Barry Bernstein asked if there is an expense to the Town in allowing credit cards. The Town Treasurer stated that there is no cost to the town on credit card payments; the additional fee amount that is set by the credit card company must be paid by the taxpayer in addition to their full tax bill. The Town does pay \$20 per month to the credit card company for the service of having the availability of payment by credit card. The Town Treasurer reported that there are about 20 credit card payments per year in total; for the folks who utilize that payment, it may be a great benefit (for example, while traveling). Cindy Gardener-Morse stated her preference that the Town not use credit card companies. The article was voted and passed.

**ARTICLE 11.** Shall interest in the amount of 0.5% per month or any part of a month, be charged on unpaid taxes?

The article was moved and seconded, and discussion ensued. Paul Hannan commented that this rate is lower than many loan options and he would prefer in future years for the percentage rate to be higher. The article was voted and passed.

**ARTICLE 12.** Shall the Town allow an interest-free grace period of fourteen (14) calendar days following each due date as set forth in Article 9 during which no interest shall be charged?

The article was moved and seconded. The article was voted and passed.

**ARTICLE 13.** Shall a delinquent tax penalty be set at 4.5% of the total amount of the 2019 delinquent tax?

The article was moved and seconded and discussion ensued. Barry Bernstein asked about the selection of the penalty rate—John Brabant stated that the cost of collecting delinquent taxes is about \$10,000 and this rate helps to cover the cost. The article was voted and passed.

**ARTICLE 14.** Shall the Town allow a penalty-free grace period of 14 calendar days after November 15, 2019, during which no delinquent tax penalty shall be charged?

The article was moved and seconded. Denise Wheeler made a point of clarification: originally, the Board wanted to include the same information about due date details as presented in Article 10 in all articles about tax deadlines. However, the Town Attorney advised that the language voted on in Article 10 is understood to apply to any articles that follow. The article was voted and passed.

**ARTICLE 15.** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$31,000 to the Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department for creation of a Capital Equipment Replacement Fund?

The article was moved and seconded and discussion ensued. Stephanie Kaplan inquired why the Town supports two fire departments. Denise Wheeler stated that Calais may be the only town in the state of Vermont that supports two fire departments. John Brabant provided historical context: in 1961, a newly formed Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department (WVFD) accepted a small donation from Calais. This was a cheap alternative for a town that did not have its own fire department at that time, but the costs today are exorbitantly expensive. Stephanie Kaplan asked about the consequence of turning down this article; the Board responded that WVFD would not receive funds to for a capital equipment fund. Sage Kennedy commented with her experience of WVFD being the fire company that would respond to her location. Donna Fitch commented that WVFD is asking for more than \$79,000 and she hopes the Selectboard takes a hard look at maintaining two fire departments. John Brabant pointed out that all fire departments surrounding a town respond to a house fire due to an agreement called “Mutual Aid.” Denise Wheeler commented that emergency services is 11% of the Calais budget. A question was raised about fire insurance implications. Denise Wheeler pointed out that this article is about a *reserve fund for capital equipment*; and that the Selectboard will be taking a hard look at the total picture of emergency services going forward. John Brabant shared about the challenge of getting qualified people to serve in emergency services while simultaneously there is very little state or federal funding. Teagan

Duncan Brown inquired about the higher dollar amount of increase for Calais compared to Woodbury in the cost of dispatching and insurances as noted on page 86 of the Town Report. Chance Payette, Woodbury Fire Department and Woodbury resident, was invited to speak and explained that the increase amount is based on a three-year average that has been used historically (some years the share is higher for Woodbury). Jeff Fannon wondered whether it makes sense to put \$31,000 today into a fund for an organization that Calais may not be funding in the future?

Jeff Fannon made a motion to table this article; the motion was seconded. The motion to table the article was voted on and failed, and discussion continued. Denise Wheeler and Sharon Winn Fannon clarified that the Selectboard will be taking a holistic look at emergency services, and East Montpelier Fire Department will be part of the discussion as much as Woodbury. Craig Line shared anecdotes about his experiences with the fire departments and his opinion that Calais should support both departments. The article was voted and passed.

**ARTICLE 16.** To transact any other non-binding business that may legally come before the meeting.

Barry Bernstein acknowledged that Act 46 brings a lot of high emotion and suggested Calais remain thoughtful about being part of one community. Cindy Gardner-Morse asked the Selectboard to consider supporting the Worcester Fire Department.

**The following Articles will be voted by Australian Ballot:**

ARTICLE 17. To elect the following Town Officers by Australian ballot:

Selectboard member	3-year term
Selectboard member	2-year term
Elementary School Director	3-year term
Elementary School Director	2-year term
Lister	3-year term

The meeting adjourned at 12:34 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Lane-Karnas, Recording Secretary

*Approved by the Selectboard at the \_\_\_\_\_ meeting*