

PROCEEDINGS AT THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING – DECEMBER 8, 2014

According to legal notice the voters of the Town of Berlin met at the Berlin Memorial School on Monday, December 8, 2014, at 7:30 PM. Assistants were Madeline P. McTague, Nathaniel Wheeler and James H. Wheeler as checkers and Police Officer Kevin Pond. Cable television coverage was provided by William Anderson. Town Counsel Joel Bard attended. Barry W. Eager, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM. There were approximately 87 voters present. The Moderator waived the reading of the articles in the warrant. The Town Clerk then read the call of the meeting and the Constable's return.

Voted unanimously that Article 2 be taken up before Article 1.

Article 2: Motion failed to amend the Town of Berlin Zoning Bylaw by adding a new subsection 485.5 "Special drive-through window requirements in the Village Overlay district" as printed under Article 2 in the Special Town Meeting Warrant to be held on December 8, 2014.

The Berlin Planning board held a Public Hearing on November 18, 2014 to consider comments concerning Article 2 on the town of Berlin Special Town meeting Warrant, to be held on December 8, 2014.

At the Planning Board meeting held on Monday December 8, 2014 the Planning Board voted 0 in favor, 5 opposed to Article 2.

Article 1: Voted to pass over Article 1. (Citizen Petition for drive-through window)

Article 3: Voted unanimously to amend the Berlin General Bylaws Article XIII – Regulation of Business, Section 1(2)(c) by replacing the words "January 1st" with the words "May 1st".

Article 4 – Voted to pass over Article 4. (To acquire 58 South St. for \$325,000. The Finance Committee recommended the money come from the Stabilization Fund)

Article 5 – Voted unanimously to transfer \$22,079.00 from free cash to Line Item #63, Building Inspector-Wages Part Time, in the Fiscal Year 2015 budget to increase the Building Inspector's hours from 24 to 36 hours per week for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2015. The Finance Committee recommended this motion

Article 6: Voted unanimously to close out the following Special Article accounts to the Stabilization Fund. The Finance Committee recommended this motion

(a)	Article 23 FY99	Accountants Software	\$4,983.41
(b)	Article 27 FY11	Mun Bldg Window Sealing at Town Offices	\$ 65.00
(c)	Article 28 FY11	Public Safety Roof Repairs	\$ 205.81
(d)	Article 20 FY14	Mun Bldg Sprinkler Renovations	\$ 200.00
(e)	Article 24 FY13	Refurbish Police Cruiser 3	\$4,102.31
(f)	Article 19 FY13	Rescue Pagers	\$ 3.00
(g)	Article 55 FY10	Veterans Bronze Plaque	\$ 495.00
(h)	Article 31 FY11	Library Repairs	\$ 25.85
(i)	Article 37 FY12	Library Water Issues	\$9,388.52
		TOTAL	\$19,468.90

A TRUE COPY.

*Attest: Elaine E. Salts
Town Clerk of Berlin*

Article 7 – Voted unanimously to transfer \$78,863.00 from Article 28 FY15 Town Meeting Warrant to purchase and install a new furnace system for the Municipal Building at 23 Linden Street, and any associated costs, said sum to be expended by the Board of Selectmen. The Finance Committee recommended this motion

The Moderator stepped down for Article 8 and the Town Clerk requested nominations for a temporary Moderator. Timothy Wheeler was nominated. Hearing no other nominations, Tim was voted unanimously.

Article 8 – Voted to transfer \$50,000 from free cash to pay for 1870 Town Hall elevator & curatorial storage building project construction drawings, bidding documents and associated professional services and costs, said sum to be expended by the Board of Selectmen and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into any and all agreements necessary to effectuate the purposes of this article. The Finance Committee recommended this motion

Article 9 – Voted unanimously to transfer \$6,000.00 from free cash to purchase computer tablets and accessories for the Building, Electrical, Plumbing/Gas and Fire inspectors to support the use of the Geo TMS permitting software, said sum to be expended by the Board of Selectmen. The Finance Committee recommended this motion

Article 10 – Voted unanimously to transfer \$2,500.00 from free cash for the purpose of replacing the solar panel, installing a new solar panel, connecting the existing water pump and the existing control panel to complete the system as well as purchasing and installing security devices and associated costs to protect the irrigation components at the Community Garden from theft, said sum to be expended by the Agricultural Commission. The Finance Committee recommended this motion

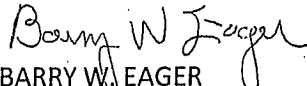
Article 11 – Voted unanimously to transfer the sum of \$382.80 from free cash to pay 3 unpaid Fiscal Year 2014 invoices to Bryley Systems, Inc. for computer services, said sum to be expended by the Board of Selectmen. The Finance Committee recommended this motion

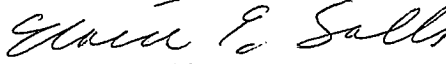
Article 12 – Voted unanimously to transfer the sum of \$600.00 from free cash to pay unpaid FY13 contractual longevity pay for Police Officer Gilcrest, said sum to be expended by the Board of Selectmen. The Finance Committee recommended this motion

Article 13 – Voted unanimously to amend the action under Article 29 of the May 5, 2014 Town Meeting regarding acceptance of the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5K, property tax liability reduced in exchange for volunteer services; persons over age 60 (Senior Work-Off Program) with implementation in FY16 by adding "with the maximum earned abatement of \$1,000 per person paid at the Massachusetts Minimum Wage Rate".

Article 14 – Voted unanimously to amend the action under Article 30 of the May 5, 2014 Town Meeting acceptance of the provisions of Mass General Law Chapter 59 Section 5N, property tax liability reduced in exchange for volunteer services; veterans (Veteran Work-Off Program) with implementation in FY16 by adding "with the maximum earned abatement of \$1,000 per person paid at the Massachusetts Minimum Wage Rate".

The meeting dissolved at 9:48 PM. One hundred forty-one (141) voters took part in this meeting.


BARRY W. EAGER
Moderator


ELOISE E. SALLS
Town Clerk