

WARNING

TOWN OF WHITINGHAM ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The legal voters of the Town of Whitingham, Vermont, are hereby warned and notified to meet in the auditorium of the Twin Valley Middle/High School, in said Town on March 7, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. to act on the following business from the floor:

Article 1

To hear the reports of the Town Officers and act thereon.

Article 2

Shall the voters authorize general fund expenditures for operating expenses for fiscal year July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 of **\$569,681.00**, of which **\$242,031.00** to be raised in taxes, the balance to be offset by **\$191,079.00** in anticipated revenues, and **\$136,571.00** appropriated from prior year's fund balance?

Article 3

Shall the voters authorize payment of **\$110,000.00** for the Town Use of School Property for the fiscal year July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018?

Article 4

Shall the voters authorize **\$7,754.00** for the upkeep and improvement of the Town Hill Common for fiscal year July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018?

Article 5

Shall the voters authorize **\$72,126.00** for the operation of the Town Fire Department for fiscal year July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018?

Article 6

Shall the voters authorize payment of **\$20,000.00** to the Fire Department Equipment Fund for fiscal year July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018?

Article 7

Shall the voters authorize **\$1,262,952.00** for the maintenance and repair of Town Highways for fiscal year July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 of which **\$1,045,430.00** to be raised in taxes, offset by **\$119,146.00** in anticipated revenues and previous year balance of **\$98,376.00**?

Article 8

Shall the voters authorize payment of **\$85,000.00** to the Highway Equipment Fund for fiscal year July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018?

Article 9

Shall the voters authorize **\$77,750.00** for the operation of the Whitingham Free Public Library for fiscal year July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 with **\$64,975.00** to be raised in taxes, and the balance to be offset by **\$12,775.00** in anticipated donations?

Article 10

Shall the voters authorize payment of **\$10,000.00** to the Municipal Facilities Fund for fiscal year July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 for continued maintenance?

Article 11

Shall the voters appropriate **\$10,000.00** for the continuing support of Deerfield Valley Rescue for fiscal year July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018?

Article 12

Shall the voters make taxes due and payable on or before November 1, 2017 with ninety-days' notice?

Article 13

Shall the voters make overdue taxes bear interest at a rate of one percent (1%) per month or fraction thereof for the first three (3) months and thereafter one and one-half percent (1 ½%) per month or fraction thereof from the due date of such tax pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5136?

Article 14

Shall the voters appropriate **\$16,900.00** for the operation of Town Cemeteries for fiscal year July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018?

Article 15

Shall the voters appropriate the sum of **\$250.00** for Brattleboro Area Hospice for general budget support?

Article 16

Shall the voters appropriate the sum of **\$1,000.00** for Deerfield Valley Community Cares, an organization that provides fuel assistance for those not on state aid?

Article 17

Shall the voters appropriate the sum of **\$2,500.00** for Deerfield Valley Community Partnership, an organization that provides programming and activities for youth and families that promote healthy behaviors and prevent youth drug and alcohol use?

Article 18

Shall the voters appropriate the sum of **\$500.00** for Deerfield Valley Food Pantry, an organization that provides supplemental food assistance to area families?

Article 19

Shall the voters appropriate the sum of **\$1,203.00** for Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc. (HCRS) an organization that supports outpatient, mental health, and substance abuse services?

Article 20

Shall the voters appropriate the sum of **\$3,000.00** for the support of Pool Learning Center an organization that provides services to residents of the Town?

Article 21

Shall the voters appropriate **\$750.00** for Senior Solutions-The Council on Aging for Southeastern VT, Inc. to serve elders and assist with funding the Community Meal and **\$305.00** for Green Mountain RSVP to train and support senior volunteers in meals delivery and leading Bonebuilders classes?

Article 22

Shall the voters appropriate **\$1,200.00** for Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA) to assist Whitingham in responding to the emergency needs of the community and providing all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need?

Article 23

Shall the voters appropriate **\$4,700.00** to Twin Valley Youth Sports Program, an organization that provides all students in Whitingham, grades pre-k through 6th, the opportunity to play the organized sports of soccer, basketball, baseball, and softball? All players will benefit from competitive play, skill development, as well as social interaction and sportsmanship while in the program?

Article 24

Shall the voters appropriate the sum of **\$4,000.00** for Visiting Nurse and Hospice of VT and NH to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings?

Article 25

Shall the voters appropriate the sum of **\$1,795.00** for Wings Community Program's 2017 Celebrate Summer program that provides 4 weeks of summer programming, arts and physical activities for youth, entering Kindergarten through those entering 5th grade?

Article 26

Shall the voters appropriate **\$850.00** for the Women's Freedom Center for general budget support to provide services to women and their children who are experiencing emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse and are residents of the Town?

Article 27

Shall the voters appropriate the sum of **\$250.00** for the Windham County Disaster Animal Recover Team ("WinDART") in order to assist in the care and sheltering of pets in the event of a local emergency?

Article 28

Shall the voters appropriate **\$2,100.00** to support Economic Development in Whitingham for the fiscal year July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018?

Article 29

Shall the voters appropriate the sum of **\$2,000.00** for support of Old Home Week activities for 2026?

Article 30

Shall the voters waive the rent of the Municipal Center, the sum of **\$300 per month**, to Dave and Terrie Dumaine who provide Senior Meals?

Article 31

Shall the voters allow the Whitingham Free Public Library to spend grant monies and donations at the discretion of the Board of Trustees and Library Director?

Article 32

Shall the town raise and appropriate **\$100,000.00** to be added to the litigation fund in the event we need to litigate with the State because of the inequality of the school tax?

Article 33

To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

The following articles will be voted by Australian ballot:

Article 34

To elect all Town Officers required by law:

- Town Moderator for a term of one year
- Town Treasurer for a term of one year
- Selectboard member for a term of two years
- Selectboard member for a term of three years
- Lister for a term of three years
- Collector of Delinquent Taxes for a term of one year
- Town Agent for a term of one year
- Grand Jurors for a term of one year
- Library Trustee for a term of three years
- Road Commissioner for a term of three years
- Cemetery Commissioner for a term of two years
- Cemetery Commissioner for a term of three years
- School Moderator for a term of one year
- School Director for a term of two years
- School Director for a term of two years
- School Director for a term of three years

Polls open from 10am to 7pm at the Twin Valley Middle/High School, 4299 VT Route 100, Whitingham, Vermont.

Dated at Whitingham, Vermont this _____ day of January 2017 by the Selectboard, Town of Whitingham, Vermont.

Keith Bronson, Chair _____

Allan Twitchell, Vice Chair _____

Gregory Brown, Member _____

Karl Twitchell, Member _____

Robin Kingsley, Member _____

Attest: *Almira Aekus, Town Clerk* _____