

**NEW HAVEN TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 4, 2013**

The legal voters of the Town of New Haven School District are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Town Hall in New Haven, Vermont on **Monday, March 4, 2013 at 4:00 PM** to discuss and transact the following business. Articles 2 and 5 require a vote by Australian ballot to take place on **Tuesday, March 5, 2013** at the New Haven Town Hall between 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM.

Moderator, Lanny Smith opened the School meeting at 4:00 pm, and read the Warning. Lanny Smith introduced the School board members: Chair, Marie Jewett, Brad Bull and Craig Bemis, as well as Superintendent, David Adams and Beeman School Principal, Steve Flint.

Jim Ford made a motion to allow ANESU Superintendent, David Adams and Beeman Principal, Steve Flint to speak since they are not New Haven residents, seconded by Ed Gomeau. No opposition to allow either to speak.

ARTICLE 1. To elect a Moderator following nominations from the floor.

Ed Gomeau made a motion to nominate Lanny Smith as Moderator, seconded by Marie Jewett.

All in favor.

Passed.

ARTICLE 2. To elect all Town School District Officers for the ensuing year by Australian Ballot.

Marie Jewett is not seeking re-election.

Ed McGuire is running for the Beeman School Board.

ARTICLE 3. To act upon the reports of the Town School District Officers.

Pam Marsh made a motion to adopt reports as printed in the Town Report, seconded by Leonard Bull.

All in favor.

Passed.

ARTICLE 4. To establish salaries for the Town School District Officers for the ensuing year.

Sue Ford made a motion to keep the salaries the same, Chair \$1,200; other members \$1,000; Treasurer \$1,000 and Moderator \$100. Motion seconded by Betty Bell.

All in favor.

Passed.

ARTICLE 5. For discussion only: VOTE TO BE TAKEN BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT ON TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2013 BETWEEN 7:00 AM AND 7:00 PM.

Shall the voters of the Town of New Haven School District appropriate \$1,888,456 necessary for the support of its school for the year beginning July 1, 2013?

Marie Jewett – Thanked all for coming to the meeting, and hoped all had a chance to review the School report. One of the main things the Board looked at was education spending, they worked hard to keep costs down. The amount to be raised by taxes is just \$6,000 more than it was last year. There are fixed costs running and staffing the school.

The proposed budget does reduce staff in some areas.

Revenues are expected to be down by 5% in the coming year.

The number of students attending Beeman is up slightly from last year, but enrollment is still down overall.

They successfully negotiated a district wide 4 year contract from July 2011 through June 2015. They have had in the past had minor increases in health insurance, but it caught up to us this year with a 14% increase. The staff contribution has increased from 10% to 15%. Several other districts are moving in this direction and we believe we are the first district in the region to make this move.

They have been actively meeting with Lincoln Elementary School Board, to determine if children are prepared to enter Kindergarten and Middle School. They are proactively seeking to make these transitions easier for the students.

As a result of the tragedy in Newtown, CT, the Board and administration have been looking closely at ways to improve safety and the security at Beeman and the use of the Town Hall. They are seeking the advice of various experts, such as the VT State Police, The Fire Department, First Responders and the Ambulance Squads. The administration will present a plan the school board and superintendent, using sinking funds for major improvements.

Marie wished to recognize ANESU Business Manager, Ed Gomeau. Marie said for as long as she has been on the Board, this is the first year they had a clean audit, with no recommendations.

This Article will be voted on tomorrow.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the voters of the New Haven Town School District will authorize the New Haven Town School District Board of Directors to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the school year, as provided in 16 V.S.A. §562 (9).

Kathy Barrett made a motion to approve the Article, seconded by Ed Guomo.

All in favor.

Passed.

ARTICLE 7. To hear and report any further business which may legally come before this meeting.

Barb Torian thanked Marie Jewett for all of her years of service, Applause.

Lanny Smith also thanked Marie, she was on the Executive Committee along with Lanny, and he said she was wonderful to work with and will be greatly missed.

Russ Reilly made a motion to adjourn the School meeting at 4:15 pm, seconded by Tim Bouton.

All in favor.

Adjourn: 4:15 pm

Respectfully submitted:

Pam Kingman

Approved:




