

**WARRANT & MINUTES
FOR THE MARCH 2014 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Town of Cooper, Maine**

To: Citizens of the Town of Cooper in the County of Washington, State of Maine.

GREETINGS: In the name of the State of Maine, the inhabitants of the Town of Cooper, qualified to vote, did assemble at the Cathance Grange Hall in said town on Monday the 31st of March, 2014, at 7 P.M., to vote on the following articles:

Election of Officers

ART. 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.
(To be sworn in by Town Clerk.)

MOTION: to Nominate Stuart Shotwell
MADE BY: Dan Ackley SECONDED: Scott Jamieson
DISCUSSION: none
Vote by secret ballot: 3 votes were cast, all for Stuart

MODERATOR IS: Stuart Shotwell
Sworn in by Sandra Lyon

MOTION: To suspend the meeting until April 7, 2014 at 7:00.
MADE BY: Dan Ackley SECONDED: Scott Jamieson

Vote by show of hands: unanimous to suspend, the motion carried, meeting was suspended at 7:07 p.m.

April 7, 2014

MOTION FOR MEETING TO RESUME:
MADE BY: Dan Ackley SECONDED: √

DISCUSSION: None
VOTE BY SHOW OF HANDS: All in favor None opposed

THE MOTION Passed

Stuart opened the meeting as he explained that he will follow the MMA guidelines. Then he asked if there were any non-voting members in the audience, would they please identify themselves if they wished to speak at the meeting. Two hands were raised. Stuart then explained that a motion needed to be made and passed by a 2/3 majority to allow them to speak.

MOTION: that we allow non-registered persons to speak.
MADE BY: Dan Donaghy SECONDED: Dan Ackley
Motion passed.

Stuart then gave examples of the recommendation being included with the article when someone says "so move" were given.

ART. 2. To choose a Town Clerk.
(To be sworn in by Moderator.)

MOTION: to Nominate Sandy Lyon
MADE BY: Dan Ackley SECONDED: John Viselli
DISCUSSION: None
Vote by secret ballot: 13 ballots cast, all for Sandy

TOWN CLERK IS: Sandra Lyon
Moderator Stuart Shotwell swore her in.

ART. 3. To hear bills and reports.
DISCUSSION: None

ART. 4. To choose three Selectmen.
(Select Board chooses a Chair at their first meeting after elections)

MOTION: to Nominate Dan Ackley
MADE BY: Karen Holmes SECONDED: Micah Perkins
DISCUSSION: None
Vote by secret ballot: 14-0

SELECT BOARD MEMBER IS Dan Ackley

MOTION: to Nominate John Viselli
MADE BY: Linda Howe SECONDED: Scott Jamieson
DISCUSSION: None
Vote by secret ballot: 14-0

SELECT BOARD MEMBER IS John Viselli

MOTION: to Nominate Norm Howe
MADE BY: Scott Jamieson **Declined**
MOTION: to Nominate Micah Perkins **Declined**
Danny Sullivan – **Declined**
Bob Von Rotz– **Declined**
Karen Holmes- **Declined**

MOTION: to Nominate Daniel Ackley
MADE BY: Dan Ackley SECONDED: Joyce Mykleby
DISCUSSION: Sandy was asked if someone could be nominated when they are not present?
Sandy answered yes, if it is known that they agree to take the office, and they need to
appear before the Town Clerk within 7 days to be sworn in. Once sworn in, it is
official.
Vote by secret ballot: 12-0

SELECT BOARD MEMBER IS: Daniel Ackley

ART. 5. To choose the Chair of the Tax Assessors.
MOTION: to Nominate Brenda Gove
MADE BY: Dan Ackley SECONDED: Helena Lynn Brown
DISCUSSION: none
Vote by secret ballot: 13-0

CHAIR OF THE TAX ASSESSORS IS: Brenda Gove

ART. 6. To choose 2nd and 3rd Tax Assessors.

MOTION: to Nominate Norm Howe
MADE BY: Dan Ackley SECONDED: Scott Jamieson
Vote by secret ballot: 13-0

TAX ASSESSOR IS: Norman Howe

MOTION: to Nominate Scott Jamieson

MADE BY: Dan Ackley SECONDED: Norm Howe
DISCUSSION: none
Vote by secret ballot: 13-0

TAX ASSESSOR IS: Scott Jamieson

ART. 7. To choose a Town Treasurer for a 1-year term.

MOTION: to Nominate Laurie Pike
MADE BY: Mary Dunn SECONDED: ✓
MOTION: to Nominate Amanda Donaghy
MADE BY: Scott Jamieson SECONDED: Dan Donaghy
DISCUSSION: Laurie Pike said she would like to be treasurer and gave her qualifications. She is familiar with the TRIO program and would use that module if elected. She is building a home on the North Union road and will soon be a resident.

Amanda also gave her qualifications. Amanda has been a resident since 2006, and would like to be treasurer.

Vote by secret ballot: 8 for Laurie 10 for Amanda

TOWN TREASURER IS: Amanda Donaghy

ART. 8. To choose one or more of the Superintending School Committee.
(Select Board note: There is a three year term and a one year term.)

MOTION: to Nominate Karen Holmes
MADE BY: Dan Ackley SECONDED: Norm Howe
DISCUSSION: this is the 3 year term
Vote by secret ballot: 15-0

3 YEAR SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER IS: Karen Holmes

MOTION: to Nominate Laurie Pike **Declined**
Linda Howe, Declined
Scott- Declined

Karen spoke about what they do on School board. They receive a manual that explains the responsibilities. Then she spoke about what the team approach is like on school Board.

Kathy Hull- **Declined.**

MOTION: to Nominate Mary Dunn
MADE BY: Joanne McMahon SECONDED: Kathy Hull
Vote by secret ballot: 16-0

1 YEAR SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER IS: Mary Dunn

ART. 9. To choose a Collector of Taxes for the ensuing year for a 1-year term.

MOTION: to Nominate Laurie Pike
MADE BY: Mary Dunn SECONDED: Joyce Mykleby
MOTION: to Nominate Amanda Donaghy
MADE BY: Dan Donaghy SECONDED: Scott Jamieson
DISCUSSION: none
Vote by secret ballot: 11- Laurie 7-Amanda

COLLECTOR OF TAXES IS: Laurie Pike

ART. 10. To choose a Constable for the ensuing year.

MOTION: to Nominate Scott Jamieson

MADE BY: Karen Holmes SECONDED: Dan Ackley

MOTION: to Nominate George Siedel, **Declined**

DISCUSSION: Scott is happy to support us in whatever way he can!

Vote by secret ballot: 13-0

CONSTABLE IS: Scott Jamieson

ART. 11. Shall the position of Road Commissioner be appointed by the Select Board.

MOTION: to readdress at summer meeting

MADE BY: Scott Jamieson SECONDED: Not

MOTION: That the road commissioner be appointed by Select Board.

MADE BY: Norm Howe SECONDED: Micah Perkins

DISCUSSION: Lenny Dodge challenged the way it was changed. Then he challenged Dan Ackley for not being a taxpayer. Micah spoke about the need for the roads to be maintained, and the Select Board having the ultimate responsibility. Lenny said that sounds good, but we need someone who knows what they are doing. Micah said he would not speak about any individual, but he agreed. Maybe even someone from out of town. Bill Kridder spoke about a hump beside the road on his land that was put there by Alva Cousins years ago, making the point that work needs to be supervised.

Stuart asked if there is other discussion? Then he gave directions to please vote yes or no.

DISCUSSION: Is there someone here? Does Select Board have someone in mind? Dan Ackley said the Select Board can act as the Road commissioner.

MOTION: that the Select Board has the authority to appoint a Road Commissioner?

DISCUSSION: Dan Ackley addressed the comment about him not being a taxpayer. He has been a 25 year resident of Cooper and paid taxes for years when he owned the Cathance Variety Store. He now pays personal taxes.

VOTE BY SECRET BALLOT: 17 Yes 4 No

THE MOTION Passed

Town officers came to the front of the meeting to be sworn in by Sandra Lyon, Town Clerk.

Various Budget Articles

ART. 12. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), including the Marion Transfer Station and the maintenance of the closed Town dump.

(Selectmen recommend \$10,000 plus balance from General Fund.)

MOTION: As read

MADE BY: Dan Ackley

SECONDED: John Viselli

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE BY SHOW OF HANDS: all in favor none opposed

THE MOTION Passed

ART. 13. To see if the Town will reduce taxes by dedicating Local State Road Assistance (LRAP) funds to general capital upgrades of Town roads.

Explanation of Article 13: Local State Road Assistance funds *must* be used for capital upgrades to Town roads; this article empowers the Selectmen to apply those funds as

DISCUSSION: Danny Sullivan asked what do they do? Dan Ackley explained that they help the Town with grants, tax maps, and others issues.
VOTE BY SHOW OF HANDS: all in favor none opposed
THE MOTION Passed

ART. 19. To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for Cooper by State law, due to extraordinary circumstances outside the control of the municipal legislative body; for example, reconstruction of Town roads washed out by flooding. (Vote by paper ballot)

MOTION: as read
MADE BY: Norm Howe SECONDED: Micah Perkins
DISCUSSION: none
Vote by secret ballot: 14- for 0- opposed
THE MOTION Passed

ART. 20. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$3,000 to pay for maintenance and plowing at the Town Office and Cathance Grange Hall/Cooper Community Center. Any remainder will go into a building & maintenance fund.

MOTION: as read
MADE BY: Dan Ackley SECONDED: Norman Howe
DISCUSSION: None
VOTE BY SHOW OF HANDS: all in favor none opposed
THE MOTION Passed

ART. 21. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate funds to pay the yearly installment on the low interest municipal loan for the Town Office.
(Select Board recommends \$18,414.96)
Select Board note: This article provides for the annual payment previously authorized at Town Meetings when we voted to construct the Town office, and enables us to meet our yearly mortgage payment.

MOTION: as read
MADE BY: Dan Ackley SECONDED: Scltt Jamieson
DISCUSSION: Danny Sullivan asked if we pay by the month or if we pay by the year?
(Clerk's note: it is a yearly installment)
VOTE BY SHOW OF HANDS: all in favor none opposed
THE MOTION Passed

ART. 22. To see what the Town will vote to pay the Selectmen for the ensuing year.
(Select Board recommends \$1,650 per Selectman)

MOTION: as read
MADE BY: Linda Howe SECONDED: Lynn Brown
DISCUSSION: Micah explained the Selectmen's pay:they will have no chair and will divide the salary evenly. (last year was \$2000, \$1,500 and \$1,500)
VOTE BY SHOW OF HANDS: all in favor none opposed
THE MOTION Passed

ART. 23. To see what sum the Town will vote to pay the 1st Assessor
(Select Board recommends \$6323)

MOTION: **Amended to read:** To see what sum the Town will vote to pay the Chair of the Tax Assessors. (Select Board recommends \$6323)

MADE BY: Scott Jamieson

SECONDED: Dan Ackley

DISCUSSION: none

VOTE BY SHOW OF HANDS: all in favor, none opposed

THE MOTION Passed

The meeting adjourned at p.m.

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: *Sandra Lyon*

Sandra Lyon
Cooper Town Clerk

A TRUE COPY

ATTEST: *Teresa Viselli*

Teresa Viselli
Cooper Deputy Town Clerk