

**TOWN OF COOPER**  
**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**  
**MARCH 26, 2007**  
**GRANGE HALL**

**7:00 pm:** The Cooper Annual Town Meeting comes to order with Teresa Viselli, Town Clerk presiding. The Officer's Return is read.

**Article 1:** Neal Hallee is nominated and elected unanimously as Moderator for this meeting. Neal Hallee comes forward and is sworn in by the Town Clerk.

**Article 2:** Teresa Viselli is nominated and elected unopposed as Town Clerk. Teresa Viselli is sworn in by the Moderator.

**Article 3:** Stuart Shotwell referred the citizens of Cooper to the Selectmen's report in the Annual Report.

**Article 4:** Stuart Shotwell (23-0), Jeff Crowe (23-0), and Robert Von Rotz (23-0) are nominated and elected unopposed as First, Second, and Third Selectmen respectively. All officers will be sworn in at the end of the meeting.

**Article 5:** Chris McCormick (23-0), Dan Ackley (23-0), and Lynn Brown (23-0) are nominated and elected unopposed as First, Second and Third assessors respectively.

**Article 6:** Ann Marie Flood is nominated and elected unopposed as Town Treasurer.

**Article 7:** Caroline Hatton is nominated and elected unopposed for a three year term as a member of the Superintending School Committee.

**Article 8:** Teresa Viselli is nominated and elected unopposed as Collector of Taxes for the ensuing year.

**Article 9:** John Viselli is nominated and elected unopposed as Constable for the ensuing year.

**Article 10:** The town voted in favor (one opposed) to reallocate the amount of \$899 carried as a reserve under the designation "Waste Disposal Contingency" for payment of Municipal Solid Waste disposal in the next or ensuing years.

**Article 11:** The town votes (17-9) not to reallocate for general Highways and Bridges expenses the remainder of \$20,000 appropriated at the June 2006 Special Town Meeting for the cost of trimming, ditching and grading the East Ridge Road (about \$6,000). Instead the town voted (26-3) to emend the existing allocation to include maintaining or replacing culverts on the East Ridge road.

**Article 12:** The town voted (17-12) to reject reallocating \$20,000 reserved from the General Fund at the June 2006 Special Town Meeting for the cost of trimming, ditching and grading the East Ridge Road .

**Article 13:** The town voted to dedicate FY 2005 general capital upgrade carryovers and FY 2006 Road Assistance funds to general capital upgrades in FY 2007.

**Article 14:** The town voted to reallocate the remainder of the \$5,500 reserved for equipment at the March 2006 meeting to be returned to the unrestricted general fund at the end of FY 2006.

**Article 15:** The town voted to raise and appropriate for the Municipal Solid Waste, including the Marion Transfer Station and the maintenance of the closed Cooper Town dump, \$5700 with any remainder to be drawn from the General Fund.

**Article 16:** The town voted to raise and appropriate \$73,000 for highways and Bridges for the ensuing year.

**Article 17:** The town voted to raise and appropriate excise taxes plus the balance from the General Fund, estimated at \$23,000, for Administrative and Contingent Expenses for the ensuing year.

**Article 18:** The town voted to include the costs of mailing the newsletter and minutes to the voters of the Town as part of the Administrative and Contingent Expenses for the ensuing year.

**Article 19:** The town voted to raise and appropriate \$5,000 plus the balance from the General Fund for Liability and Workman's Compensation Insurance for all Town employees and Town officers.

**Article 20:** The town voted to use the carry-forward from 2006 (estimated at \$673) and to raise and appropriate a further amount to the total of \$2500 for maintenance for the Cooper Volunteer Fire department for the ensuing year.

**Article 21:** The town voted to raise and appropriate \$52.48 per rostered volunteer firefighter for insurance coverage for the calendar years 2007 and 2008.

**Article 22:** The town voted to raise and appropriate \$500 for the Town Recreation, including maintenance and sanitary services for the Town Beach area.

**Article 23:** The town voted to raise and appropriate \$50 plus emergency payment if necessary from the General fund for Town Welfare for the ensuing year.

**Article 24:** The town voted to pay the Selectmen \$1500, \$750, and \$750 for first, second and third Selectmen respectively for the ensuing year.

**Article 25:** The town voted to pay the Assessors \$1500, \$750, and \$750 for first, second and third Assessors respectively for the ensuing year.

**Article 26:** The town voted to pay the Treasurer \$1600 for the ensuing year.

**Article 27:** The town voted to pay the Town Clerk \$750 for the ensuing year.

**Article 28:** The town voted to pay \$4500 for the Collection of Taxes for the ensuing year.

**Article 29:** The town voted to raise and appropriate \$1800 for the mowing of cemeteries for the ensuing year.

**Article 30:** The town voted for the Selectmen serving in FY 2007-2008 to contract for cemetery mowing for a period of one, two, or three years, at their discretion.

**Article 31:** The town voted to raise and appropriate \$1000 for the repair and refurbishment of the Town cemeteries at the direction of a committee of citizens appointed by the Selectmen.

**Article 32:** The town voted (9-1) on a motion not to join the Washington County Council of Governments if the \$250 membership was paid by an anonymous donor. The town voted (one opposed) to join the WCCOG with the \$250 membership to be paid by the town.

**Article 33:** The town votes to have all taxes due and payable at a certain date, and interest charged on all taxes paid thereafter.

**Article 35:** The town votes to fix the date for all taxes to be due as December 1 and the interest rate at ten percent.

**Article 36:** The town voted to close the separate Town Recreation account and make payments of Town Recreation funds out of the regular Town checking account.

**Article 37:** The town voted (with one opposed) to authorize the Selectmen to sell any real estate on which the Town holds tax liens and on which the liens have been foreclosed.

**Article 38:** The town voted to direct the Tax Collector and Treasurer, pursuant to Title 36, Maine revised statutes Annotated, section 906, to apply any tax payment received from an individual as payment for any property tax against outstanding or delinquent taxes due on said property in chronological order beginning with the oldest unpaid tax bill; provided, however, that no such payment may be applied to any tax for which an abatement or appeal is pending unless approved in writing by the taxpayer.

**Article 39:** The town votes that the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen or a majority thereof, are authorized to borrow from time to time in anticipation of taxes for the taxable year commencing April 1, 2007, a total sum not to exceed \$30,000.

**Article 40:** The town voted to authorize the Selectmen serving in FY 2007-2008 to contract for winter maintenance for a period of one, two, or three years at their discretion.

**Article 41:** The town voted to authorize the Selectmen to spend an amount not to exceed 1/12<sup>th</sup> of the budgeted amount in each budget category of the Town of Cooper during the period from March 1, 2008, to the Cooper Annual Town Meeting.

**Article 42:** The town votes to accept the categories of funds listed below as provided by the Maine state Legislature.

|                                  |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Education subsidies              | \$116,400 |
| Municipal Revenue Sharing        | \$7,200   |
| Local Road Assistance            | \$12,900  |
| Snowmobile Registration fund     | \$50      |
| Gasoline Tax Refund              | \$400     |
| Veterans Reimbursement           | \$101     |
| Property Tax Relief              | \$313     |
| Homestead Reimbursement          | \$4,600   |
| Tree Growth Reimbursement        |           |
| General Assistance Reimbursement |           |

**Article 43:** The town voted to authorize the Tax Collector to accept advance taxes for FY 2008.

**Article 44:** The town voted to raise and appropriate \$2,250 for emergency services for the ensuing year from Washington County Emergency Medical Service Authority.

**Article 45:** The voted to authorize the Selectmen to transfer money reimbursed by the State of Maine from Snowmobile Registration to the Breakneck Mountain Snow Riders Snowmobile Club.

**Article 46:** The voted to raise and appropriate \$100 for prevention of domestic violence.

**Article 47:** The town voted to raise and appropriate \$50 to support the services of the Washington County Children's Program.

**Article 48:** The town voted to raise and appropriate \$50 to support the Washington County Association for Retarded Citizens

**Article 49:** The town voted to raise and appropriate \$100 for the Dennys River Watershed Council.

**Article 50:** The town voted to raise and appropriate \$100 for the Cathance Lake Association.

**Article 51:** The town voted to raise and appropriate \$100 for the Washington-Hancock Community Agency.

**Article 52:** The town motioned to vote (14-8) individually to raise and appropriate the following sums to these third parties:

- \$78 for the Down East Aids Network (14-7)
- \$235 for the Calais Free Library (16-8)
- \$100 for the Literacy Volunteers of Washington County (20-2)
- \$500 for Down East Hospice (22-2)
- \$150 for Home and Family Services (12-5)

At approximately 9:45pm the Officers are sworn in as the meeting is adjourned.  
Given under our hands this 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2007.

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Teresa Viselli, Town Clerk