

**ANNUAL REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2020 (and SEPTEMBER 13, 2020, if necessary)
(Rescheduled from March 21, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic)**

The legal voters qualified to vote in Representative Town Meeting are hereby notified and warned to meet on Zoom on Saturday, the twelfth day of September, 2020, at 8:30am, to act on the Articles listed below. If not all Articles are acted upon on September 12, then the meeting will continue on September 13 at a time to be determined on September 12 by the assembled members of Representative Town Meeting.

Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone using this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86448680971>

Passcode: 12261753

**You also can call in using your telephone
by dialing any of these toll-free numbers in the United States:**

833-548-0282

877-853-5247

888-788-0099

833-548-0276

**or you can access a list of non-toll-free numbers
for locations around the world using this link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/k2Hdbk6mA>

The "Meeting ID" for this meeting is:

864 4868 0971

The meeting will be carried live on BCTV:

On Cable TV: Channel 1085 or Channel 10

Streaming Online: <https://www.brattleborotv.org/channel-10-stream>

Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/brattleborotv/>

ARTICLE 1: To act on the Town's Auditors' report.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will authorize its Selectboard to employ a certified public accountant or public accountants.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will ratify, approve and confirm the Selectboard's appointment of a Town Clerk for a term of one year (until the 2021 Representative Town Meeting).

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will ratify, approve and confirm the Selectboard's appointment of a Town Treasurer for a term of one year (until the 2021 Representative Town Meeting).

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will ratify, approve and confirm the Selectboard's appointment of a Town Attorney for a term of one year (until the 2021 Representative Town Meeting).

ARTICLE 6: To elect two representatives to the Capital Grant Review Board for a term of one year (until the 2021 Representative Town Meeting). Members to be nominated from the floor.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will elect members to the Town Finance Committee for a term of one year (until the 2021 Representative Town Meeting). Members to be nominated from the floor.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will elect members to the Human Services Review Committee for a term of one year (until the 2021 Representative Town Meeting). Members to be nominated from the floor.

ARTICLE 9: To elect three Trustees for the Brooks Memorial Library to serve three years, and one Trustee to fill a 1-year unexpired term. The names for consideration are: Jennifer Rowe, Karen Tyler, and John Woodward, each for a term to expire in 2023; and Gabriel Sistare for a term to expire in 2021.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will authorize its Selectboard to borrow money in anticipation of taxes, grants and other revenue.

ARTICLE 11: To see what salaries the Town will pay its Selectboard members.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will transfer from the Unassigned General Fund Balance to the Capital Fund the sum of \$223,000 to fund a portion of the cost of a new fire engine to replace a 1994 fire engine.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$43,748 for the Community Marketing Initiative promotion of Brattleboro performed jointly by the Brattleboro Area Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Brattleboro Alliance.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 through special assessments on properties within the Downtown Improvement District (as approved by Town Meeting March 19, 2005, and as delineated in the Town Ordinance entitled "Municipal Act to Establish and Regulate the Downtown Improvement District") to be used for capital and operating costs of projects of the Town's duly designated downtown organization as reflected in its work plan and budget.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$190,105 to support human service programs and facilities for the residents of Brattleboro to be allocated among service providers in the following manner: Aids Project of Southern Vermont - \$2,000; Big Brothers Big Sisters - \$6,375; Boys & Girls Club of Brattleboro - \$17,000; Brattleboro Area Hospice - \$2,550; Brattleboro Area Prevention Coalition (a/k/a Building a Positive Community) - \$11,250; Brattleboro Centre for Children - \$4,500; Brattleboro Community Justice Center - \$5,950; Brattleboro Senior Meals - \$5,250; Family Garden - \$2,500; Gathering Place - \$3,750; Green Mountain RSVP - \$700; Groundworks Collaborative - \$19,000; Health Care & Rehabilitation Services of Southeastern Vermont - \$7,500; KidsPLAYce - \$4,000; Meeting Waters YMCA - \$7,125; Out in the Open (f/k/a Green Mountain Crossroads) - \$8,500; The Root Social Justice Center - \$5,250; Senior Solutions - \$2,700; Southeastern Vermont Community Action, Inc. (SEVCA) - \$11,400; Turning Point - \$15,000; Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired - \$700; Vermont Center for Independent Living - \$1,600; Visiting Nurse and Hospice for VT and NH - \$10,980; Windham County Humane Society - \$1,000; Windham County Safe Place Child Advocacy Center and Southeastern Unit for Special Investigations - \$2,700; Women's Freedom Center - \$14,250; Windham Southeast Supervisory Union Summer Food Program - \$6,375; Youth Services - \$10,200.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town and School District taxes, assessed on the Grand List as of April 1, 2020, shall be due and payable in four (4) equal installments payable to the Town Treasurer until overdue, then to the Collector of Taxes; that such payment of the installments shall be received by the Town Treasurer's Office on or before 5:00pm on September 15, 2020, November 16, 2020, February 16, 2021, and May 17, 2021; and that interest at a rate of one percent (1%) per month be charged from the due date of payment on any overdue payment of the Town tax, installment, or portion thereof; and that a penalty of eight percent (8%) be charged on any overdue payment that remains due and owing on May 18, 2021.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will authorize the expenditure of \$36,147 from Program Income (a revolving loan fund that disperses proceeds which originated as Community Development Block Grants) as a contribution to the operation of Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Strategies (SeVEDS).

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$223,276.47 through special assessments on property within the "Mountain Home Park Special Benefit Assessment Tax District" (as approved by Town Meeting, March 24, 2007, and as delineated in the Town Ordinance entitled "Municipal Act to Establish and Regulate the Mountain Home Park Special Benefit Assessment Tax District") for the purpose of paying debt service on the capital improvements to the water and sewer lines serving the Mountain Home and Deepwood Mobile Home Parks.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will adopt the following resolution and submit it to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) as comments to communicate the Towns' ongoing concerns and interests:

"Whereas, the peaking operations of Wilder, Bellows Falls and Vernon dams have been causing daily surface water elevation fluctuations of, on average 2-3 feet every day in the impoundments behind the dams for at least 70 years, resulting in loss of land for landowners in VT and NH and degradation of water quality and habitat of the river for decades;

"Whereas, in the late 1970s, during the last relicensing process, the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) conducted an erosion study on the project area; and FERC issued the last licenses in early 1979 just months before the ACOE completed their study in November of that year; and the ACOE study clearly states that pool level fluctuations are the *second most important causative factor* for erosion in the project areas.

"Whereas, the erosion study completed for the current relicensing by Great River Hydro, the current owner of these three projects did not look at the effect of pool level changes on erosion, instead, focusing only on potential erosion due to velocity along the bank edge that would be typical for a natural river system; and the Connecticut River in the project area does not function as a natural river, instead functioning as a series of lakes, with water flow controlled by the dams.

"Whereas, many towns and landowners up and down the river have used millions of dollars in public and private money to attempt to stabilize and restore their streambanks to protect property and infrastructure over the past 70 years;

"Therefore, be it resolved that the Town of Brattleboro, formally requests that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission require, via license article, the current and any subsequent owners of the Wilder, Bellows Falls and Vernon Dams to modify current dam operations to minimize peaking; provide for ongoing streambank monitoring; develop a shoreline adaptive management plan; and create a mitigation and enhancement fund to support riverbank restoration and/or property owner compensation to reimburse towns and landowners for any and all damages resulting from the deterioration of the riverbank."

ARTICLE 20: To transact any other business that may lawfully come before the meeting.

Dated at Brattleboro, Vermont this 11th day of August, 2020.

BRATTLEBORO SELECTBOARD



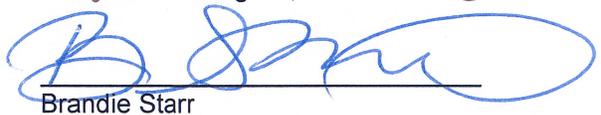
Tim Wessel, Chair



Elizabeth McLoughlin, Vice Chair



Ian Goodnow, Clerk



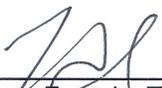
Brandie Starr



Daniel Quipp

Brattleboro, Vermont
August 12, 2020

Town Clerk's Office, Brattleboro, Vermont, August 12, 2020, at 12:30 a/pm received and recorded the foregoing Warning in Volume 21, of Town Records, at Page 290.

Attest: 

Hilary Francis, Town Clerk

