

TOWN OF GROTON, VERMONT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, June 23, 2016

The citizens of the Town of Groton, who are legal voters in the Town of Groton are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Groton Community Building in Groton Village on June 23, 2016 at 6:30 o'clock in the afternoon, to act on the following articles, to wit:

The Flag Salute was given.

Mary Grant, Selectboard Chairperson stated there would be a moment of silence.

Mary Grant announced the Special Town Meeting is called to order and the first action of business was to elect a Moderator.

The motion was made to nominate Mary Grant as moderator. Mary Grant declined as she felt it was a conflict of interest as she is on the Selectboard.

Mary Grant asked if there were any nominations for moderator. Stan Pierce nominated Peter Lyon, Mary asked if there were any other nominations Linda Nunn nominated Brent Abare. Hearing no other nominations.

Mary Grant called for a show of hands for Peter Lyon the count was a show of 16 hands.

Mary Grant called for a show of hands for Brent Abare the count was a show of 18 hands.

Brent Abare was nominated moderator for the Special Town Meeting by the show of 18 hands.

Brent Abare read the warning:

ARTICLE 1: "Shall the voters of the Town of Groton instruct the Selectboard to make improvements to the Sidewalk and entrance adjacent to the Community Building and Fire Station that would further help safety, aesthetics and drainage without the use of any type of curbing and to remove all curbing in this area if the project has been completed before this meeting?"

Brent Smith called to move the motion.

Wayne Knott seconded the motion.

Andrew Dorsett gave a power point presentation explaining this is a pilot project. Andrew explained in the power point viewing that where the black car is shown parked down near route 302 is where the granite curbing would go. This is being funded by a matching grant fund. Andrew explained about the sand and water drainage issues. Andrew spoke about the Town's parking area collapsing due to water drainage issues. Andrew stated the issue is from the grassy area to the light pole in the center of the entrance to the Community Building and Fire Station. Andrew stated that if we didn't go with this design that the town would need to go back to the state and re-do the permit.

There were many questions asking, if there were other options, if the State was demanding that the curbing be put in, if and how it would affect the plowing of the parking lot.

Brent Smith handed out paperwork with some information regarding the other options than putting in granite curbing. Brent stated he had been Road Commissioner for 20 plus years and in the constitution of the State of Vermont it shows on page 2 article 6 (Officers servants of the people) reads: That all power being originally inherent in and co[n]sequently derived from the people, therefore, all officers of the government, whether legislative or executive, are their trustees and servants; and at all times, in a legal way, accountable to them.

Brent referred to e-mails he had from Jon Kaplan and Nathan Covey both are with the Vermont Agency of Transportation giving some of their findings concerning the sidewalk project and curbing issues. Brent Smith enclosed some diagrams giving illustrations as to what could be used instead of granite curbing.

There were more questions and concerns that were addressed by both Andrew Dorsett and Brent Smith.

Aaron Smith called the question. Hearing no more questions

Brent Abare repeated the article for the vote. Brent Abare all in favor of the article vote by saying I.

The Article passed by voice vote.

Election Official

Moderator

Selectboard Member

Respectfully submitted By Linda L Nunn