

**ANNUAL SCHOOL AND TOWN MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 2, 2015
WELLS VILLAGE SCHOOL**

VOTERS & GUEST PRESENT: 43

MODERATOR: Ronald Bremer

SCHOOL PORTION:

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Ron Bremer.

Rich Holcomb Jr. made a motion to allow non-voters to speak. Bill Rozensky seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Ron Bremer introduced candidates for school positions.

Ron Bremer asked School Board Chair Sue Burke to read the Wells Town School Warning.

Ron Bremer read through the articles starting with article one.

Linda O'Leary made a presentation on behalf of the school. A copy of the presentation is attached to the typed minutes filed in the Town Clerk's office.

Ron Bremer entertained questions for the School Board.

Cherry Hopson pointed out the print is too small. Enoch Pratt suggested going to a 8 ½ x 11 size book.

Victoria Angis complimented Linda O'Leary for her years of service and asked about the search for a new principal as Miss O'Leary will be retiring in June. Miss O'Leary said goal is to have someone in place by end of year so there will be an easy transition.

Michelle Bates says we need to either make the print bigger or leave it out of the report and that something needs to be done.

Cherry Hopson stated we voted last year to put surplus money into funds and that we needed to monitor those funds. Cherry asked if there are any plans to make a report for those funds. Louis said he would list all funds in a report and put them in the town report next year.

Gerry Woodruff made a motion to adjourn school portion. Bill Rozensky seconded the motion. Motion passed. Adjourned at 7:35pm.

Ron Bremer called the town portion of the meeting to order at 7:45pm.

Bill Rozensky made a motion for non-voters to speak. Gary Witherbee seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Ron Bremer introduced the candidates for the Town positions.

Ron Bremer asked the Select Board Chair, Enoch Pratt to read the town warning.

Discussion of articles ensued:

Cherry Hopson said she was very pleased that people are available to vote on each appropriation separately this year.

Gary Witherbee made a motion to accept Town Report as written. Seconded by Ellen Malona. Motion passed.

Cherry Hopson asked how the Town Office phone budget cut down from \$3600.00 to \$2000.00. Nora Sargent stated that phone service was switched from Fairpoint to Comcast.

Robin Chesnut-Tangerman came in at 7:56 p.m. to speak to the audience. He discussed things happening in Montpelier. There was a questions and answer session that followed.

Town portion began at 8:17 p.m.

Article 1: No discussion

Article 2: No discussion

Article 3: No discussion

Article 4: Rich Holcomb Jr. asked how many years were left on truck. Todd Fenton said 2 years.

Article 5: No discussion

Article 6: Don Mattison asked what does the association plan on doing with the money? Jim Candors made a presentation to explain what they are doing.

Donna Lamb asked how much Poultney gives the association. He said that Poultney gives \$20,000.00.

Bill Rozensky asked if the lake is a water source for lake residence. Jim said is not technically a source but some people are using the water as a source for their homes.

Joe Phillips asked if there is a way to allow people to wash their boats so they are not turned away if they come and their boat is not washed. Jim said they had looked into this but space was an issue.

Article 7: William Frye and Bill Steinmetz made a presentation and reviewed revenue and expenses. A slide show followed with before and after pictures. Discussion ensued on this.

Article 8-24: No discussion

Article 25: Alex Brewster asked the Select Board to justify why they felt like we needed a five person Select Board.

Tim Makepeace addressed the audience as to why he is in favor. Enoch Pratt addressed the audience as to why he is opposed to it.

Cherry Hopson explained that this was voted on last year and it was voted down by 30% and wanted to know why it was being brought up again. Tim Makepeace addressed why he felt we needed to bring it up again. Enoch Pratt then discussed why he felt it was not necessary to bring it up again.

Don Preuss addressed the audience about his experience as a Select Board Chair for six years and his opposition to the five person Select Board.

Bill Rozensky said it was good to bring it before the Town to see if it was applicable for our Town and see what people want by having it out there.

Rich Holcomb Jr. said it does not hurt to add any articles for people to vote on as they should be able to express their opinions.

Ellen Malona made a motion to adjourn at 9:10pm. Bill Rozensky seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Ronald Bremer, Moderator

Nora Sargent, Town Clerk/Treasurer