

Town of Danville
Selectboard Minutes
February 24, 2022
Danville Town Hall (6:00 pm)

Board Members Present Using Microsoft Teams: Eric Bach, Kellie Merrell, Kristin Franson and Peter Griffin

Board Members Present: Ken Linsley

Others Present Using Microsoft Teams: Clayton Cargill, Melissa Conly, Craig Morris, Janice Ouellette, Karen Desrochers, Elizabeth Ferraro, Mary and Dan Wyand, Virginia Incerpi, Sara Welch, Robert Edgar, Todd Gratton, Mark Tucker, KATV, Sara Stinson, Tim Sanborn, Molly Gleason, Laura (no last name), Maryellen Griffin, Bruce Melendy, and Greg Prior

Others Present: Audrey DeProspero, Tom Ziobrowski, Alison Despathy, Gary and Barbara Fontaine

Meeting was called to order by Tom Ziobrowski, Moderator at 7:02 pm

1. Public Informational Pre Town-Meeting - Town:

Tom Ziobrowski opened the Town Budget up to questions.

Virginia Incerpi inquired if someone could give a summary of the budget.

Ken Linsley discussed property taxes, noting they are the same as for last year in total.

Kellie Merrell spoke of revenue from tax payers being the same.

Tom Ziobrowski noted Special Appropriations were the same as last year.

2. Introduction of Candidates for Town Office:

Moderator:

Tom Ziobrowski discussed running for Moderator and having been elected Moderator for the past ten years and once again interested in doing it for another year.

Selectboard 3 year:

Peter Griffin discussed running for the three-year term on the Selectboard. He gave a brief update of who he is: married with two children ages 18 and 16; moved to Danville in 2010; previously a Peacham resident; owned an organic vegetable farm in Peacham; works in the legal counsel office for the legislation office; attorney by trade; his Selectboard experience is that he currently holds a position on the Selectboard; has enjoyed the experience and would like to continue; being on the Selectboard they have had some hard decisions to make and thinks they have done a good job; and would like to be elected for the open three year term.

Craig Morris discussed running for the three-year term on the Selectboard. He has been participating in the Selectboard meetings for the last three years. He wants to get more community involvement and thinks being on the Selectboard that more community members would be informed. He is contacted by a lot of individuals and asked to bring information to the Selectboard. He is an assistant coach for little league and is looking to participate in more community items.

Selectboard 1 year:

Alison Despathy discussed living in Danville since 2001; lives with her husband and her three children on Coles Pond Road; and her children are home schooled but her oldest child now attends Danville School for his senior year. She noted life in Vermont is a very different place and there are a variety of opinions, views and belief. She spoke of differences and finding common ground and noted citizens and residents of Danville all have constitutional rights. She spoke of free society and free country and stepping into the public arena. Her background is in health and she wants education resources and education for all people available for everyone along with transparency.

Kellie Merrell discussed having six years on the Selectboard; moved to Vermont in 1999; read book

“The Good Life” which appealed to her and her husband so they decided that is how they would like to live (12x16 shed, water from the Town Green); their intention was to homestead closer to the land. She believes in volunteering and serving the community; she was on Planning Commission and worked on the Town Plan.

Janice Ouellette discussed running for one year seat; lives in West Danville with husband; property borders the Rail Trail; been in Danville nearly her entire life; 1975 graduate of Danville School; Bachelors in Accounting; started family in 1990; moved back to Danville because it is a small close community; worked for Danville School then Central Office Caledonia Central; is a Business Manager; worked on budgets; has done grant management; financial reporting; and worked for small nonprofit as Human Resources and Bookkeeper; feels it is important to have community service; and has volunteered at school, church, recycle center and elections.

Tom Zombrowski noted Kristin Franson is not running again this year.

Ken Linsley thanked Kristin Franson for her three-year service on the Selectboard and hopes that when children are older, she will consider coming back.

Tom Ziobrowski noted Tim Ide was running for Lister 3 year and Ed Ledo is running for Delinquent Tax Collector.

3. **Any Other business that is legally permitted to come before the meeting** - None.

4. **Adjourned** at 7:35 pm.

5. **Public Informational Pre Town-Meeting – School Board**

Tom Ziobrowski introduced School board: Bruce Melendy, Robert Edgar, Clayton Cargill, Tim Sanborn and David Toll. David Toll is absent.

Mark Tucker discussed school budget; Danville being a small school; 45 to 48 tuitioning students from surrounding towns; slight increase in education this year; new bus leases added on to transportation budget; a couple more tuition students entering in next year; surplus in school budget last couple of years will be spent on improvements to the school; heating wood chip boiler is now up and running; creation of a CTE position is funded for two years from federal grant monies; increase in education spending; CLA dropped about five points; and tax rate is 4 cents lower than last year.

6. **Introduction of Candidates for School Board Offices**

Tom Ziobrowski discussed Bruce Melendy and Robert Edgar not running this year however there are two one-year terms with three people running. Molly Gleason and Melissa Conly are on the ballot and Lance Horne is a write in candidate. He noted he was running for Moderator one-year and that Clayton Cargill was running for the three-year term unopposed.

Melissa Conly discussed being a candidate for the one-year term; living in Danville for 11 years with her husband and daughter; active community member with the local Chamber as coordinator of parade; works for State; Master Degree in Mental Health; and caring about the experience of the students.

Molly Gleason discussed having two kids, one in fifth grade and one in second grade; living in Danville; her husband grew up in Danville; family heritage being important; involved with school; the school offers more than just education; schooling helps them become good community members; and has served on several boards.

Tom Ziobrowski recognized Bruce Melendy and Robert Edgar for their time on the School Board.

Bruce Melendy recognized Robert Edgar for his time on the School Board along with all others on the School Board. The school board has a good respectful conversation and he wished all the best.

Clayton Cargill discussed running for three-year term; challenging process that the School Board has been dealing with; space and building inadequacies; talking to the Town about improving the building;

equitable education to all children; and suggested all folks should come to meetings both School Board and Selectboard or at least read the minutes so they know what is going on in their Town.

7. **Any other business that is legally permitted to come before the meeting – none.**
8. **Adjourn – 8:00 pm.**

Minutes taken by Audrey DeProspero submitted February 25, 2022 at 11:00 am.