

**Town School District of Wallingford Meeting Minutes**  
**March 2, 2015**

Town Moderator A. Jay Kenlan reconvened the school portion of the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

School Chair Ken Fredette introduced School Board members Paul Rondinone, Janine Rodgers, and Tara Lidstone. School Board member Shannon Pytlik was absent. He also introduced Mill River School Board members Karl Ross, Tammy Heffernan, Paul Rondinone, and Wallingford's new principal, Helen Richards-Peele. Ken Fredette stated Superintendent Dave Younce and Business Manager Stan Pawlaczyk were at Clarendon's town meeting. Ken also recognized Ralph Nimtze (not in attendance), Jay White, and Gary Fredette for going above and beyond to keep the building project moving along.

The moderator read the warning as follows: The legal voters of the Town School District of Wallingford, Vermont are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Wallingford Elementary School at seven (7:00) p.m. in the evening on Monday, March 2, 2015 for the Annual Town School District meeting. The polls will be open on Tuesday, March 3, 2015, at the Wallingford Town Hall at ten (10:00 a.m. in the morning and close at seven (7:00) p.m. in the evening for the purpose of voting Australian Ballot. The business to be transacted will include:

ARTICLE I. To elect a Town School District Moderator for the ensuing year. (By Australian ballot)

ARTICLE II. To elect one Town School Director for a term of two years. (By Australian ballot)

ARTICLE III. To elect one Town School Director for a term of three years. (By Australian ballot)

ARTICLE IV. To elect one Director to the Mill River Union District #40 Board for a term of three years. (By Australian ballot)

ARTICLE V. Will the Town School District vote compensation for the School Directors and if so, at what rate?

David Klock made the motion and James Heinz seconded it. Rob Carey asked if it was the same amount as last year, and Ken Fredette answered yes. Nan Dubin asked how long it has been at that amount. Ken Fredette replied he thought 2-3 years, noting that the board had chosen not to receive pay for 3-4 years prior to that. The motion passed by voice vote.

ARTICLE VI. Will the Town School District vote to authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money temporarily from time to time, as may be required to pay orders? (By Australian ballot)

ARTICLE VII. Will the Town School District vote to approve a total budget of \$2,293,735 for the operation of the elementary school in fiscal year 2015-16? (By Australian ballot)

Chairman Fredette reported that the school budget is up \$97,398, or 4.4%. Most of that increase is attributable to the first payment due on the 20-year loan used for building renovations. Other revenues and expenses make up the rest. Given the current numbers from Montpelier, Mr. Fredette estimates that this budget will increase the tax rate by 3-4 cents, while Mill River's budget will actually decrease the total tax rate by a few cents. The residential education tax rate is estimated to be approximately \$1.44. There were no questions from the audience.

ARTICLE IX. Will the Town School District vote to authorize the Town School District to transfer any audited unanticipated surplus funds remaining at the end of FY15 to the Building Sinking fund? (By Australian ballot)

Ken Fredette stated that this first-time request came about because the state has put a moratorium on funding 30% of capital construction costs. The anticipated surplus will be used to help hold the tax rate on the budget. There were various questions from the audience on this article.

ARTICLE VIII. Will the Town School District vote to appropriate the sum of \$18,000 to the Building Sinking fund? (By Australian ballot)

Ken Fredette stated the School historically asked for \$15,000 annually, and he explained the various uses for the monies. Karl Ross asked why \$19,778 was spent last year when only \$15,000 was budgeted. Ken Fredette replied that money was borrowed from the sinking funds and then reimbursed with the bond payments.

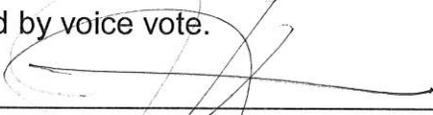
ARTICLE X. To conduct such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Ken Fredette reminded property owners to file their Homestead Declaration by April 15th.

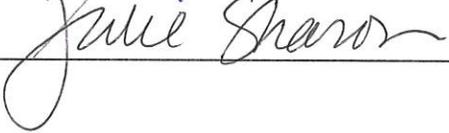
Ken Fredette gave an update on the facilities project at the school.

Rob Carey asked why the proposed non-residential education tax rate of \$1.4436 is lower than the residential education tax rate of \$1.5905. Ken Fredette explained how the education tax rates are set by the state.

With no other business to come before the body, at 8:20 p.m. Mr. Kenlan asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rob Carey moved to adjourn; Nan Dubin seconded it. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Submitted:  Town Moderator

 School Board Chair

 Town Clerk