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Unity Maine Annual Town Meeting Minutes 2018

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**TOWN MEETING MINUTES
FOR THE
TOWN OF UNITY
*March 23rd & 24th, 2018***

Friday March 23, 2018, Kari read the greeting and opened the floor for nominations for moderator. Donald Newell was nominated and seconded. 5 (five) ballots cast for Donald Newell. Donald Newell appointed Patricia Clark and Deputy Moderator.

Saturday, March 24, 2018, Donald Newell opens the meeting, swears in Daniel McCormick as town of Unity Selectman.

Don goes over the rules and regulations of the meeting. Opens the floor to running candidates: April Turner, Erin Herbig, & Joe Grennier

- Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to approve the Maine Moderator's Manual 6th Edition as the rules of procedure for the meeting. Article 3 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 4. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to appoint all necessary Town Officials. Article 4 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the Snowmobile Registration Refund from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to be used for grooming trails, with matching funds, under the supervision of the Selectmen and the Project Director. Article 5 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the tax collector or treasurer to accept prepayment of taxes not yet committed, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 506. Article 6 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to allow a 2% discount on all taxes if paid in full within 30 days from the original postmarked date. Article 7 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to charge interest at the rate of 8% per annum on all 2018 taxes which remain unpaid on December 1, 2018. Article 8 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell or otherwise dispose of real estate acquired by the Town for nonpayment of taxes thereon. The selectmen shall advertise the properties for sale by sealed bid and have the authority to accept or reject any or all bids, and to execute a Quitclaim deed for such property. The selectmen may attempt to sell the property back to the prior owner before advertising the properties for sale. Article 9 was moved, seconded and passed.

- Article 10. To see what sum the town will vote to raise and/or appropriate to pay tax abatements and applicable interest granted during the 2018 fiscal year. Article 10 was moved to appropriate \$3,600 form surplus and passed.
- Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to use up to \$5,000.00 from undesignated funds (surplus) as they deem advisable to meet unanticipated expenses and emergencies that occur during the current fiscal year, 2018. Article 11 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 12. To see if the Town will authorize the municipal officers to spend an amount not to exceed 1/6 of the budget amount in each category of the annual budget during the period from February 1, 2019 to March 23, 2019. Article 12 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 13. To see if the town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to make final determinations regarding the closing and opening of roads to winter maintenance pursuant to 23 M.R.S.A. SS 2953. Article 13 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 14. To see if the town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to dispose of town-owned personal property, under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable. Article 14 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 15. Shall the Town accept any and all gifts raised through various fund-raising activities and donations received by the Recreation Committee, and appropriate them for their intended purposes, as recommended by the municipal officers? Article 15 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$700.00 for Broadreach Family Services for the ensuing year. Article 16 was moved and seconded. Motion to amend article to \$600 as recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee, seconded. Amendment passed. Motion to pass article 16 as amended, seconded, article 16 passed as amended.
- Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$830.00 for New Hope for Women for the ensuing year. Article 17 was moved and seconded. Motion to amend article 17 to \$250 as recommended by the Selectmen and seconded. Discussion. Motion to amend to \$250 is defeated. Motion to amend article to \$500 as recommended by the budget committee and seconded. Amendment passed. Motion to accept article 17 as amended, seconded and passed.
- Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$750.00 for Seabasticook Regional Land Trust for the ensuing year. Article 18 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$500.00 for Spectrum Generations for the ensuing year. Article 19 was moved and seconded. Motion to amend article to \$400 as recommended by the Selectmen and Budget Committee, seconded. Amendment passed. Motion to pass article 19 as amended, seconded, article 19 passed as amended.

- Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$500.00 for Maine Youth Alliance/The Game Loft for the ensuing year. Article 20 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Representative from Game Loft summarized a letter from the director of the Game Loft. Motion to limit discussion was moved and seconded. Passed. Motion to accept Article 20 as written, seconded and article 20 passed.
- Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$8,553.00 for Waldo Community Action Partners for the ensuing year. Article 21 was moved and seconded. Motion amend article to \$2000 as recommended by the Selectmen and budget committee, seconded, and discussion. Motion was made to limit debate, seconded and passed. Motion to pass amendment was seconded and passed. Motion to accept article as amended, seconded and passed.
- Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,200.00 for the Volunteer Regional Food Pantry for the ensuing year. Article 22 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 for a Destination Website & Related Marketing. Article 23 was moved, seconded and open for discussion. Motion to amend article to \$0 as recommended by the Selectmen. Seconded, discussion. Motion to limit debate, seconded and passed. Motion to accept amendment, second and amendment fails. Motion to accept article as written, seconded and passed
- Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 for Streetscape/Lighting/Signage. Article 24 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Article 24 passed.
- Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,000 for Wayfinder (DOT business directional) signs. Article 25 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Motion to call debate, seconded and passed. Article 25 fails.
- Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 for Recreational Trails. Article 26 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Motion to call debate, seconded and passed. Article 26 passed.
- Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$6,000 for Traffic Calming, legal, & general administration. Article 27 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Motion to call debate, seconded and passed. Article 27 passed.
- Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$15,000 for a Lodging Feasibility Study. Article 28 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Motion to limit debate, seconded and passes. Article 28 fails.

- Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000.00 for the Park and Recreation Committee. Article 29 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Motion to amend article for the funds to come from taxation, seconded. Amendment fails. Selectmen recommend turning the article as written down. They will meet with the EDC to discuss the funding options for the Park and Rec and will bring the article back at a special town meeting. Article 29 fails.
- Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$295,024.00 for Summer Roads for the ensuing year. (This includes \$250,000 for the 1st road loan). Article 30 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Motion to amend article to remove \$14,500 for the repair for the Farwell Bridge, now appropriating \$280,524 for summer roads. Selectmen to meet with the EDC, and a new article will be presented at a special town meeting. Motion is seconded. Amendment passes. Motion to accept article as amended, seconded and passed.
- Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$215,000.00 for Winter Roads for the ensuing year. Article 31 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Article 31 passed.
- Article 32. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate \$84,360.80 for the Second Road Loan for the ensuing year. Article 32 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Article 32 passed.
- Article 33. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,500.00 for the Sand and Salt Shed Maintenance. Article 33 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Article 33 passed.
- Article 34. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$19,109.29 for the Town's share of the Unity Area Regional Recycling Center for the ensuing year. Article 34 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Article 34 passed.
- Article 35. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$73,497.88 to pay the Rubbish Disposal Tipping Fee to Penobscot Energy Recovery Co. for the ensuing year. Article 35 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Moderator changes Penobscot Energy Recovery Co. to Whomever MRC (Municipal Review Committee) designates. Article 35 passed.
- Article 36. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$39,505.36 for Solid Waste Pickup for the ensuing year. Article 36 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Article 36 passed.
- Article 37. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,890.00 for Landfill Maintenance and Monitoring for the ensuing year. Article 37 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Article 37 passed.
- Article 38. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000.00 for Kanokolus Beach for the ensuing year. Article 38 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Motion to amend article to raise the \$2,000 for a total of \$5,000.00, seconded. Motion is withdrawn. Motion to amend to raise \$3000.00 from taxation and

\$2,000 will be presented at the special selectmen's meeting. Seconded and passed. Motion to accept article 38 as amended, seconded and passed.

- Article 39. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to accept a gift of \$1,500 from Friends of Lake Winnecook and appropriate for the purpose of an attendant at Kanokolus Beach and Boat Launch. Article 39 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Article 39 passed.
- Article 40. To see if the Town will vote that the revenues derived from the Fire Department charges, refunds, grants and contract payments shall become a part of the Fire Department Maintenance & Operations and the Firemen's Compensation Accounts in addition to funds appropriated by the Town. Article 40 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 41. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$23,600.00 for the Fire Department Salaries account for the ensuing year. Article 41 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 42. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$53,850.00 for the Fire Department Maintenance and Operations account for the ensuing year. Article 42 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Article 42 passed.
- Article 43. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 for the Fire Truck Fund for the ensuing year. Article 43 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 44. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$40,115.50 for the Firehouse Loan Payment for the ensuing year. Article 44 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 45. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$500.00 for E-911 for the ensuing year. Article 45 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 46. To see if the town will vote to accept a 2011 Polaris Ranger ATV side by side from the Unity Volunteer Fire Association for the sum of \$1.00. Motion to accept article 46 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Motion to amend article to sell the 2011 Polaris ATV, trailer and the Unity Fire Department Association has first refusal if the Selectmen decide to sell it. Amendment is seconded. Discussion. Moderator will not accept the amendment because it changes the article's content. Selectmen request the voters turn down article and present it at the special town meeting with all information. Motion to accept article as written, seconded and fails.
- Article 47. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate \$9,400 to repair the parking lot at the firehouse. Article 47 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Was recommend to turn down article and bring back to special town meeting. Article 47 failed.
- Article 48. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,500.00 for the Constable for the ensuing year. Article 48 was moved and seconded. Discussion. Motion to

amend the article to have to funds come from surplus. Amendment was seconded. and passed. Article 48 passed as amended.

- Article 49. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$71,318.50 for Town Official's Salaries for the ensuing year. Article 49 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 50. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$11,000.00 for Assessing Services for the ensuing year. Article 50 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 51. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000.00 for the ACO/CEO/LPI/EMA Incidental Account for the ensuing year. Article 51 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 52. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$62,997.50 for the Administration Account for the ensuing year. Article 52 was moved, seconded and passed. Raise: \$52,997.50 Admin Fees: \$10,000.00
- Article 53. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 for Legal Fees for the ensuing year. Article 53 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 54. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$28,992.19 for the Town Office Loan Payment for the ensuing year: Article 54 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 55. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$8,600.00 for Electricity for Town Lights for the ensuing year. Article 55 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 56. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$16,450.00 for Cemeteries for the ensuing year. Article 55 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 57. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$11,456.82 for the Small Community Septic Grant Program for the ensuing year. Article 57 was moved, seconded, discussion and passed.
- Article 58. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,050.00 for the Septic Disposal Contract for the ensuing year. Article 58 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 59. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,762.00 for dues to Kennebec Valley Council of Governments for the ensuing year. Article 59 was moved, seconded and passed.
- Article 60. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,170.16 for the contract fee for the Humane Society of the Waterville Area for the ensuing year. Article 60 was moved, seconded and passed.

Article 61. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,000.00 for General Assistance for the ensuing year. Article 60 was moved, seconded and passed.