Minutes

Special Town Meeting

December 15, 2021

The Special Town Meeting was held at the former Athens Elementary School in Athens, Vermont. Moderator David Bemis called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

The moderator read the warning. He stated the meeting would follow Roberts Rule of Order and would not be in conflict of Vermont Law. The moderator asked that all attending wear masks. The moderator asked that all issues be directed to the moderator.

The clerk took a roll call of the checklist. A total of 84 registered voters answered the roll call of 286 voters on the checklist.

Article 1: Shall the Town of Athens elect its Town officers At all future Annual and Special Town Meetings by Australian ballot pursuant to 17 V.S.A. §2680(b)?

Janet Perry made the motion the Town of Athens elect its Town officers At all future Annual and Special Town Meetings by Australian ballot pursuant to 17 V.S.A.§2680(b). Don Capponcelli seconded. . Discussion followed. Wichie Artu asked for clarification on who could speak at town meeting. David said if it was not a registered voter, there would have to be a majority of the voters giving permission for that person to speak. There were concerns about the process needed to put your name on the ballot, how the turnout could be affected by Australian ballot, and how the Australian ballot was handled at last year’s Town Meeting. Tom Taylor called the question and asked for a paper ballot. A paper ballot was taken. The results of the ballot were 50 yes, 34 no. The Town officers will be elected by Australian ballot at the annual Town Meeting.

Article 2: Shall the Town of Athens adopt all budget articles and monies At all future Annual and Special Town Meetings by Australian ballot pursuant to 17 V.S.A.§2680©?

Carol Bingham made the motion the Town of Athens adopt all budget articles and monies At all future Annual and Special Town Meeting by Australian ballot pursuant to 17 V.S.A.§2680(c). Denise Randall seconded. Discussion followed. Harold Noyes moved the article. A vote was taken. The results were yes to move the article. A paper ballot was taken. The results of the ballot were 71 yes, 13 no. The motion was defeated. All budget and monies will not be voted by Australian ballot.

Further business. Don Capponcelli wished to thank the teens who helped clean out the school’s attic.

There being no further business, Denise Randall made the motion to adjourn. Don Capponcelli seconded. Put to a vote. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:06pm.

Approved this 16th day of December, 2021

Athens Board of Selectmen

David Bemis

Denise Randall

Janet Perry