

WARNING
TOWN OF VERNON, VERMONT
2024 ANNUAL TOWN AND SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
DRAFT

The legal voters of the Town of Vernon are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Vernon Elementary School Gymnasium, 381 Governor Hunt Road, at 6:30 pm on Monday, March 4, 2024, in said Town to act upon Articles 4 through 31 below.

Articles 1 through 3 will be voted by Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at the Town Office Building, downstairs. Polls will be open from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

The Town Report and Auditors report can be found on the Town's website. Copies of the Town Report will be available at the Town Clerk's office after February 22, 2024.

Article 1: To elect the following Town Officers (**VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT**):

Selectboard - 3 yr. Term	Jim Pinkerton
Selectboard - 2 yr. Term	Tom Guerino
Lister 3 yr. Term	William Hammond
Delinquent Tax Collector	Marylynn Scherlin
First Constable	None
Second Constable	None
Town Moderator	Tim Arsenault

Article 2: Shall the Vernon voters adopt a Town School budget of \$7,698,231.00 to defray its expenses and liabilities for the 2024-2025 school year? (**VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT**)

Article 3: To elect all Town School District Officers by law to be elected at the Annual Town School District Meeting Officers by law to be elected at the Annual Town School District. (**VOTING BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT**)

School Director 3 yr. Term	Cheryl Brown
School Director 2 yr. Term	None
School Moderator	Tim Arsenault

Articles for 2024 Town Meeting

Article 4: Shall the voters authorize Town General Fund expenditure for operating expenses of \$2,293,880.00 of which \$1,843,062.00 shall be raised by taxes, and \$310,000.00 by estimated income, \$40,818.00 in ARPA funds as voted on 2/1/2023 and \$100,000.00 carry over from FY 23-24?

Article 5: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$133,456.00 to be raised by taxes for administration of the Vernon Free Library?

Article 6: To elect a Library Trustee to fill the expired term of three years through Town Meeting of March 2027.

Article 7: To elect a Library Trustee to fill the expired term of three years through Town Meeting of March 2027.

Article 8: To elect a Library Trustee to fill the expired term of three years through Town Meeting of March 2026.

Article 9: To choose a committee to disburse the income of the March Fund.

Article 10: To choose a Memorial Day Committee.

Article 11: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$1,200.00 to be raised by taxes, to fund Vernon Historians, Inc. for the expenditures related to Vernon's historic preservation, educational promotion and required insurance?

Article 12: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Professional Services Fund"?

Article 13: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Emergency Repair/Replacement Fund"?

Article 14: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$125,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Town Road Upgrading Fund"?

Article 15: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$40,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Town Culvert Fund"?

Article 16: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$4,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Town Parking Lots Maintenance Fund"?

Article 17: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the previously established "Elderly Assistance Fund"?

Article 18: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 to be raised by taxes to fund the "Town of Vernon-James Cusick Scholarship Fund"?

Article 19: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$529,685.00 for the funding of items approved in the Capital Plan of which \$491,159.61 is to be raised by taxes?

Article 20: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$15,098.72 to be raised by taxes for the Windham Solid Waste District Assessment to fund the previously established "Solid Waste Fund"?

As a member of the WSWMD the Town is assessed an annual fee, which in FY 23 will be \$7,259.00 from July 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 and FY 25 from January 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025. This cost has increased 4% in 2025. The Town is obligated to pay this annual assessment unless it officially withdraws from WSWMD, which will take 2 years in accordance with the WSWMD charter from the State of Vermont. Due to significant state mandates, particularly providing two household hazard waste collection events per year, most towns decide to remain members of WSWMD rather than provide the mandated services on their own.

Article 21: Shall the voters appropriate funding for curbside recycling and municipal building refuse collection from July 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024, to be raised by taxes to fund the previously established “Solid Waste Fund”? If the Town votes to continue curbside recycling, the estimated cost of \$34,320.00 will include municipal building refuse collection?

Article 22: If the Town votes NO on **Article 21**, Shall the voters authorize the town to dissolve the Pay-As-You-Throw Fund and cover negative expenditure from the Solid Waste Fund?

Article 23: If the Town votes NO on **Article 21**, Shall the voters authorize the town to construct a Transfer Station for the cost of \$50,000.00 and an additional \$60,000.00 to employ three part-time Transfer Station operators?

Article 24: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 to be raised by taxes for the operation of the Emergency Management Office?

Article 25: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$3,250.00 to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients’ homes and in community settings by the Visiting Nurse and Hospice for VT & NH?

Article 26: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$2,100.00 to support the services of Southeastern Vermont Community Action?

Article 27: Shall the voters appropriate the sum of \$6,576.00 for the support of Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Strategies (SeVEDS) to provide workforce and economic coordination services to the Windham Region.

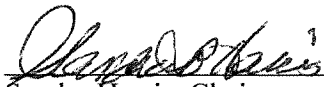
Article 28: Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$1,850.00 to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of Health Care & Rehabilitation Services (HCRS) in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691?

Article 29: Shall the voters authorize payment of Real and Personal Property taxes to the Town Treasurer in three installments, with the due dates being September 12, 2024, January 9, 2025 and May 1, 2025?

Article 30: Shall the voters approve the provision of notice of availability of the Town Report and Auditor’s Report by “postcard, mailed to all registered voters” at least 30 days prior to Town Meeting, in lieu of mailing or otherwise distributing the Town Report and Auditor’s Report as authorized by Vermont law and 24 V.S.A. § 1682(a)(2)?

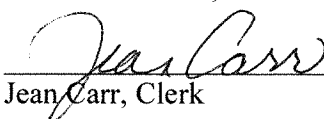
Article 31: To transact any other business that may lawfully come before said meeting.

VERNON SELECTBOARD:



Sandra Harris, Chair

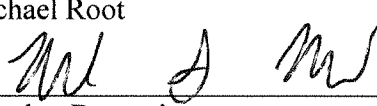
Thomas Guerino, Vice Chair



Jean Carr, Clerk



Michael Root



Brandon Bucossi