

**Village District of Eidelweiss
Madison, NH 03849
Annual Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2009**

The Annual Meeting was held in the Madison School on Saturday, February 28th, 2009. The voting opened at 8 a.m. and remained open until 10 a.m. Carol Hally, Emily Sheppard and Cheryl Brooks were the Checklist Supervisors.

The meeting was called to order by VDOE Moderator Mark Graffam at 10:06 p.m. Mark Graffam explained the procedure of the meeting and separated the voters from the non-voters by seating arrangement. He explained the differences between the Governing Body and the Legislative Body. He introduced the VDOE officers.

The VDOE commissioners were present: Gloria Aspinall, Michael Smith and Ralph Lutjen. The Clerk Peter Craugh and Treasurer Dinah Reiss were also present.

The Moderator led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Patrice Lutjen moved and Peter Craugh seconded to: **Waive the reading of the warrant. Motion passed by determination of hand count by the moderator.**

The Moderator requested permission to make a presentation on the water system. No objections were voiced from the floor. Mark Graffam passed out information on the water system and presented a description of the system . He also explained the process of long term debt (Debt greater than \$100,000 spread over a period of several years). He stated that for VDOE to incur such debt a 2/3 approval made by ballot must be obtained.

Jay Buckley moved and Ellen McGregor seconded that: **Non-resident taxpayers be allowed to speak. Motion passed unanimously by a voice vote.** The moderator asked for any objection to setting a priority for those speaking. No objection was voiced from the floor.

Discussion ensued on the Moderator's presentation. Concern was raised as to the method of funding the water system improvements. Mark explained the rational of the connection fees and the current system. He stated that if desired motions could be presented under Article #12 for recommendations of changes. Questions of fairness of the fees were discussed. The moderator explained water fee calculations and expected load expenses. The moderator explained the bids for the force main portion of the water system projects. The presentation ended and the articles on the warrant were then considered.

ARTICLE #1

**To choose all necessary officers for the coming year: One Commissioner (three year term), One Commissioner (one year term), Treasurer(one year term) and Clerk (one year term).
By ballot the following were elected:**

Gloria Aspinall , Commissioner Three year term by 28 of 30 votes.

**Ralph Lutjen , Commissioner one year term, by 27 of 30 votes.
Dinah Reiss, Treasurer one year term by 31 of 32 votes
E. Peter Craugh Clerk one year term by 27 of 30 votes.**

(Results were announced at the end of the meeting.)

ARTICLE #2

To see if the District will raise and appropriate the sum of \$537,000 for the purpose of improving the water system. Such sum to be raised through the issuance of bonds or notes under and in compliance with the municipal Finance Act RSA 33:1 et seq. as amended, to authorize the Commissioners to apply for, obtain and accept federal. State or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project: to authorize the Commissioners to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver said bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; to authorize the Commissioners to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,000 for the first year's payment. This amount is to be raised by water fees. No amount is to be raised from taxation.(2/3 ballot vote required)

After some procedural comments. Kevin O'Neil moved and Jay Buckley seconded to present article #2 as written.

Mark Graffam moved and Michael Smith seconded to amend article #2 to read:

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$473,000 for the purpose of the Reinach Forced Main Project and the Reinach Tank Project. To authorize \$127,000 of 20 year bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act(RSA 33) to fund the Reinach Forced Main Project and \$346,000 to fund the Reinach Tank Project through the NH Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) with a principle forgiveness at least 50% and a 20 year term by the DWSRF.

In the event that the Village District does not receive the principle forgiveness of at least 50% from the DWSRF, to see if the Village will raise and appropriate the sum of \$127,000 for the purpose of the Reinach Force Main Project. To authorize \$127,000 of bonds or notes to fund the project and to authorize the Commissioners to apply for and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project and furthermore raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,383 for the first years payment on the bond (or note). This amount is to be raised by water fees. No amount is to be raised from taxation.

Discussion ensued concerning the method of funding and the need for the Village to progress with water system improvements.

Olivia Craugh moved the question, Dinah Reiss seconded. Motion Passed 17 for, 3 against.

The amendment to article# 2 was voted. 20 for, 10 against. Motion to amend article #2 passed.

Article #2 as amended was voted by ballot. Polls were opened at 10:28am. They remained open for one hour.

The results of the ballot vote on article #2 as amended were 23 for, 8 against. 31 total votes. 23 for divided by 31 total = 74%.

Article #2 as amended passed with required two thirds majority. (Vote was announced after the polls were declared closed at 11:35am)

ARTICLE #3

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$378,251 for the general operation of the District.

Executive	10,045.00
Administration	31,375.00
Legal Expense	12,000.00
Employee Benefits	39,400.00
General Government Buildings	16,900.00
Insurance	12,000.00
Regional Association	500.00
Other General Government	2,500.00
Highways & Streets	230,100.00
Street Lighting	2,200.00
Parks & Recreation	5,000.00
Tan Interest	4,000.00
Bond Interest	12,231.00
TOTAL	\$378,251.00

Michael Gervino moved and Jay Buckley seconded to submit article #3. Ralph Lutjen explained that some costs for the Highway budget and Water budget were split with 70 for Highway budget and 30% for water budget. Last year the split was 50% for each. Gloria Aspinall commented that the audit is under way and should be complete in May. Discussion ensued on several items.

Jay Buckley Moved that: the Article #3 bottom line be reduced to \$369,651 with the suggestion that the lodge deck not be rebuilt. Discussion ensued. The amendment was voted 5 for, 19 against. Motion to amend failed.

More discussion ensued with comments on the two payment of taxes adopted by Madison. The Commissioners stated that they did not know how Madison would pay VDOE for taxes collected at

this time.

Article #3 was voted with an amount of \$378,251, 20 for, 3 against. Article #3 passed.

ARTICLE #4

To See if the District will raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,000 to be placed in the previously established Capital Reserve Funds under the provision of RSA 35:1

Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$35,000
Road Construction Capital Reserve Fund	\$30,000
Land Acquisition Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 5,000

Michael Gervino Moved and Heidi Gervino seconded to accept article #4.

No discussion came from the floor.

The motion was voted, 24 for, 0 against. Motion to accept Article #4 for \$70,000 passed.

ARTICLE #5

To see if the district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$182,000 for the construction of a maintenance building to replace the old salt shed with \$106,000 to come from unreserved fund balance and \$76,000 to come from general taxation. (The \$106,000 represents an insurance payment received in 2008 for this purpose).

Ralph Lutjen moved and Michael Smith seconded to accept article #5.

Discussion ensued. Ralph Lutjen presented information on the proposed building project. Various members of the building committee gave their views.

Mark Graffam moved and Peter Craugh seconded to amend article #5 to read:

To see if the District will vote to authorize the Moderator to appoint and lead a committee to design and build site improvements and a replacement building for the old salt shed and to see if the District will authorize the use of the insurance payment of \$106, 00 for this purpose. This building and site improvements are to be designed and built in 2009 at a cost equal to or less than \$106,000

Discussion ensued. A building committee member (Mr. Tucker) described the original proposal suitability and required site work. Comments were made on the delays in progress of this project.

The amendment to article #5 was voted, 13 for 13 against. Motion to amend failed.

A further motion to amend by Mr. Wondolowski was made but then withdrawn. Further discussion ensued on requirement to heat the building.

Article #5 was voted, 13 for, 5 against. Article #5 passed for (~~\$186,000~~ corrected 5/22/09) \$182,000(\$106,000 to come from unreserved general fund).

ARTICLE #6

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$90,000 for the reconstruction and repair of Aspen Drive and Bristenstock Drive and to withdraw \$40,000 from the Highway Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose. The balance of \$50,000 is to come from general taxation.

Ralph Lutjen described the project and its need. Discussion ensued.

Article #6 was voted, 22 for and 0 against. Article #6 Passed for \$90,000 with \$40,000 coming from the Highway Capital reserve Fund.

ARTICLE #7

To See if the District will vote to authorize the Board of Commissioners to sell property on Goetzens Rd shown as lot 72 on a plan entitled “Section J, Rockhouse Mountain, Great Norther Land Corp. Conway, New Hampshire” recorded the the Carroll County Registry of Deeds at Plan Book 0020, Page 0037, also known as the “tennis court lot: and further described as Tax Map 299, lot 66 to any party at a price to be determined by the commissioners. Said conveyance shall be subject to all existing conditions and any rights of others to use the lot.

Peter Craugh moved and Gloria Aspinall seconded to accept article #7. Discussion ensued.

Article #7 was voted 25 for, 0 against. Article #7 was passed.

ARTICLE #8

To see if the District will vote raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,200 for a new flag pole. Heidi Gervino Moved and Olivia Craugh seconded. To accept article #8

Discussion ensued on repair of the old pole and lighting issues for the flag. No resolutions were made.

Article #8 was voted 18 for, 5 against. Motion to approve Article #8 for \$3,200 passed.

ARTICLE #9

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$168,186 for the general operation of the water system of the District. This amount is to be raised by water fees. No amount is to be raised from taxation.

Executive	4,305.00
Administration	16,850.00
Employee Benefits	8,600.00
Buildings	4,000.00

Legal Expense	2,500.00
Property Liability Insurance	2,100.00
Electricity	21,400.00
Telephone lines	2,200.00
Testing	4,000.00
Repairs	55,000.00
Engineering Consulting	12,000.00
Water Monitoring	13,500.00
Bond	12,231.00
Water Advisory Board	6,000.00
Total Operating Budget	\$168,186.00

Jude Devlin moved and Stanley Wondowloski seconded to accept article #9.

Discussion ensued on efficiency of heating water stations. Improvements to insulation are not in the budget.

Article #9 was voted 25 for 0 against. Article #9 for \$168,186 was passed.

ARTICLE #10

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) and authorize the Board of Commissioners to spend these funds making and repairing connections to the District Water System, extending or repairing water lines and making general improvements to the water system. These funds will be offset by water connection fees.

Jay Buckley moved and Olivia Craugh seconded that article # 10 be accepted.

No discussion came from the floor.

Motion to accept article #10 was voted 25 for, 0 against. Article #10 passed.

ARTICLE #11

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand five hundred dollars (\$5,500) for disconnecting the water hookups on Brenner Drive and connecting them to the Rockhouse Mountain Water System. This amount to be offset by water connection fees. No amount is to be raised by taxation.

Olivia Craugh moved and Heidi Gervino seconded to accept article #11.

Discussion ensued.

Article #11 was voted 27 for , 0 against. Article #11 passed.

ARTICLE #12

To act upon any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Jay Buckley moved and Kevin O'Neil seconded that: "2 mtgs be held to hear the publics concern on how to fund water infrustructure improvements based on the master plan"

Discussion ensued with comments that many public hearing have been held with this subject discussed.

Motion voted 8 for 14 against. Motion failed.

Stan Wondolowski moved Jay Buckley seconded that "Commissioners consider funding the engineering of the continuation of the Oak Ridge paving and water improvement project in the 2010 budget warrants".

Motion voted 20 for, 0 against. Motion passed.

Edmund Foley moved and Michael Smith seconded that : "To reaffirm that the people to support the water system are the water system users".

Motion voted 17 for 6 against. Motion Passed.

Gloria Aspinall commented on the discussions with the Madison Selectmen on the acceptance of VDOE roads. One meeting was held and further meeting were to be held but the selectmen kept delaying the followup meetings.

Peter Craugh moved and Jude Devlin seconded: to adjourn the meeting, Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 2:37PM.

Respectfully submitted

**E. Peter Craugh
Clerk, Village District of Eidelweiss**

Amendment/correction: The amount voted for article #5 is \$182,000. It was a typographic error and was corrected by the clerk May 22, 2009.

**E. Peter Craugh
Clerk, Village District of Eidelweiss**