

**ANNUAL MEETING
TOWN OF MORETOWN
MARCH 04, 2025**

The inhabitants of the Town of Moretown who are legal voters in the Town are hereby notified and warned of the Town Meeting at the Moretown Elementary School on March 04, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. to act on the articles listed below. Voting on articles to be decided by Australian ballot shall take place at the Moretown Town Office on School Street from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm.

Article 1: To elect a moderator to preside at the meeting of the Town whose term of office shall be for the ensuing year.

John Schmeltzer nominated Steve Magill to serve as Moderator. The nomination was seconded by Mary Larson, and all were in favor.

Article 2: To elect the following offices: Two Selectboard members for 1-year term: One Selectboard member for 3-year term; One Trustee of Public Money for 1-year term; One Delinquent Tax Collector for 1-year term; One Cemetery Commissioner for a 3-year term; One 2nd Constable for a 1-year term; Two Library Trustees for 1-year term; and One Library Trustee for 3-year term.

Voting to be by Australian ballot

Article 3: Shall the Town of Moretown set the tax warrant date on real property to be November 01, 2025, and that such taxes be paid to the Town Treasurer in one installment due, payable and postmarked by November 01, 2025, without discount, and that interest be charged at the maximum allowed by statute, not to exceed one and one-half percent per month?

Clarence Wood so moved; Steve Robbins seconded. All were in favor.

In response to a question, the process for applying for a tax abatement was outlined.

Article 4: Shall the voters of the Town of Moretown vote to change the delinquent tax penalty levied to a graduated commission schedule pursuant to 32 V.S.A. Section 1674 (3), to 4% for the first 30 days following the tax due date, and 8% thereafter?

Karen Horn so moved; Steve Sharp seconded. Dick Butsch moved to amend the motion to set the tax rate at 6% following the first 30 days after the due date; Melanie Cherooff seconded. After some discussion regarding the associated payments to the Delinquent Tax Collector and impacts of a penalty on timely payment of property taxes, the amendment failed and the original motion passed with all in favor.

Article 5: Shall the voters of the Town of Moretown vote the sum of \$1,859,294.49 for the support of the Town, for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2025, for any operating expenses and other obligations.

Voting to be by Australian ballot

There were points made during discussion, including: the budget's being too low, the need to cover increased road expenses, and presenting the budget in a more user-friendly format.

Article 6: Shall the Town of Moretown become a 50% member of the Mad River Valley Recreation District, accept the District Agreement (as amended), and appropriate \$20,000 as its assessed share of this District's January 1 through December 31, 2026 budget?

The Mad River Valley Recreation District Agreement (as amended) is posted on the Town Website at moretownvt.org, and available for viewing at the Moretown Town Office and polling location.

Voting to be by Australian ballot.

Clark Amadon provided some information about this proposal, and answered questions from those present.

Article 7: Shall the voters of the Town of Moretown appropriate the sum of \$6,250.00 to support the work of the Waterbury Area Senior Center?

Voting to be by Australian ballot.

Dare Torre provided a legislative update, touching on the topics of education funding, health care, and climate concerns.

Article 8: Shall the voters of the Town of Moretown appropriate the following?

\$400.00 to help support the work of Capstone Community Action Inc., formerly known as Central Vermont Community Action Council, Inc.

\$500.00 to help support the work of Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired

\$1,400.00 to help support the work of Central Vermont Council on Aging, Inc.

\$350.00 to help support the work of the Washington County Diversion Program

\$150.00 to help support the work of Elevate Youth Services?

\$1,200.00 to help support the work of Central Vermont Adult Basic Education

\$750.00 to Mad River Valley Television to help fund the cost to record and make Moretown public meetings available for viewing, on MRTV's TV channels and website

Jeff Watt so moved; Steve Sharp seconded. Mary Larson moved to amend the motion to include a \$650 appropriation to Capstone Community Action, Inc.; Dave Stapleton seconded. Upon review of the Town's allowance for up to \$5000 being included in an appropriation Article, the appropriation for Capstone was changed to \$649 with no objections raised. The amendment passed with all in favor, and the amended motion passed with all in favor.

Article 9: Shall the voters of the Town of Moretown appropriate the following?

\$3,750.00 to help support the work of Central Vermont Home Health and Hospice

\$300.00 to help support the work of Good Beginnings of Central Vermont

\$500.00 to help support the work of Family Center of Washington County

\$400.00 to help support the work of Prevent Child Abuse Vermont

Vee Lynch so moved; Mary Larson seconded. The motion passed with all in favor.

Article 10: Shall the voters of the Town of Moretown appropriate the following:

\$500.00 to help support the work of Circle (formerly Battered Women's Services and Shelter)

\$700.00 to help support the work of People's Health & Wellness Clinic

\$300.00 to help support the work of MOSAIC

\$1,100.00 to help support the work of the Montpelier Senior Activity Center

\$100.00 to help support the work of Green Up Vermont

\$1,200.00 to help support Washington County Mental Health

\$1,000.00 to help support the Children's Room

Eliza Cain so moved; Linda Hazard seconded. Eliza Cain moved to amend the motion to include a \$599 appropriation to Circle; Karen Sharpwolf seconded. The amendment passed with all in favor, and the amended motion passed with all in favor.

Article 11: Shall the voters of the Town of Moretown appropriate the following?

\$350.00 to help support Community Harvest of Central Vermont

\$775.00 to help support Green Mountain Transit

Carrie Friberg so moved; Jennifer Tripp-Mead seconded. All voted in favor.

Article 12: Shall the voters of the Town of Moretown appropriate the sum of \$4,999.00 to help support the work of the Mad River Valley Senior Citizens, Inc.?

Clarence Wood so moved; John Schmeltzer seconded, and all voted in favor.

Reports were provided by several Selectboard members and other committee members. Don Wexler provided some general information; Mike Brown spoke of the approved Town Forest Management Plan; Callie Streeter provided an update on sidewalk projects in the Village and in the North Moretown area; Clark Amadon reported on wastewater system efforts; and Dave Stapleton explained that a Neighborhood Development Area designation is being considered for a portion of North Moretown.

Dated at Moretown, Vermont this ____ day of March, 2025

Thomas Martin, Select Board Chair

Stephen Magill, Moderator

Received and Recorded this ____ day of March, 2025

Attest: _____

Cherilyn Brown, Town Clerk