

## PLAINFIELD TOWN MEETING

March 6, 2012

The legal voters of the Town of Plainfield are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Plainfield Fire Station at 169 Main Street, on Tuesday, the sixth day of March 2012 at ten o'clock in the forenoon to transact the following business and to vote by Australian ballot from 9:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. on Article 1.

Town Meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. March 6, 2012 by Town Moderator Charlie Barasch as warned. He opened the meeting at the Plainfield Fire Station with announcements and asking folks to state their name and use the microphone when speaking. Fireman's club provided food, Cutler Memorial Library offered primrose plants from Jerome's Florist for sale in support of the local library, PACA sold pies to support their group and the Town Hall Committee put on a display with reports. Mr. Barasch stated the narrative of the Social Concerns committee published in the Town Report was from last year. The spreadsheet with amounts for appropriation are correct. There are copies of the right narrative provided as a handout to include in your Town Report. He then read a poem entitled "A White Turtle Under a Waterfall" by Wang Wei.

### Report from State Representative Janet Ancel

Ancel announced she provided her business cards on the table and encouraged everyone to email her for an electronic copy of updates on current legislative issues. She gave a few highlights on 4 bills that passed: 1) budget adjustment due to the impact of Irene storm; 2) redistricting bill includes Calais, Marshfield and Plainfield 3) fee bill that helps the agency of transportation and 4) nonrestructuring bill. The House is deciding on 16 to 25 beds to be provided at Central VT Medical Center to replace some of the loss of the State Hospital as it has been out of operation due to the Irene Storm. A new health care bill will go into effect in 2014 in accordance with the new Federal law exchange to work in the interest of everyone especially the middle income class that go into effect in 2017 Janet thanked everyone and again encouraged everyone to contact her with any questions here at the meeting or anytime.

Peter Youngbaer asked about the 107 road damage in Rutland and stressed that it should be posted at 30 MPH. Ancel responded that 107 was the last road to be opened following the storm and that the transportation fee bill will benefit this road and there remains much additional road repair as the roads are still not up to standards. The transportation bill supports about 137 million in bridge repair and about 63 million for road repair. It is expected FEMA will provide assistance but it will take some time to complete all the repairs.

Art. 1 To elect all necessary officers for the ensuing year. Moderator, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Selectboard, Lister, Auditor, Collector of Delinquent Taxes, Town Grand Juror, Town Law Agent, Cemetery Commissioner, and School Director.

Polls are open 9:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

Art. 2 To hear reports of Town Officers and act on same.

Auditor's Certificate: James Jamele moved to accept with a second from Gary Graves and the motion was approved by all.

Town Clerk's Report: James Jamele moved to accept with a second from Jan Waterman and the motion was approved by all.

Town Treasurer's Report: Rick Levy moved to accept with a second from Mary Niebling and the report was approved by all.

Delinquent Tax Collector's Report: Rachel Desilets moved to accept with a second from Rick Levy and the motion was approved by all.

Lister's Report: Rick Levy moved to accept with a second from Carl Carlson and the motion was approved by all.

Planning Commission Report: Rick Levy moved to accept with a second from Elaine Parker and the motion was approved by all.

Zoning Administrator's Report: Meg Davis moved to accept with a second from Rick Levy and the motion was approved by all.

Selectboard's Report: Laura Zeisel moved to accept with a second from Daniel Marcus and the motion was approved by all.

Social Concerns Report: Moderator Barasch reported the Social Concerns Committee had the wrong narrative published in the Town Report but that the spreadsheet is correct. Jan Waterman moved to accept with a second from Rick Levy. Alex Forbes asked why the Sexual Assault Team was not listed in the report. Moderator Barasch answered we are voting on the narrative and to ask about financial questions later. Motion was approved by two-thirds vote.

Water Systems Report: James Jamele moved to accept with a second from Bob Atchinson. Greg Chamberlin, Chief Operator of the Water Systems and non-resident, was approved to speak by the voters. He thanked everyone for being patient with him as he transitions into Jay Jewett's position and acknowledged his gratitude for what Mr. Jewett taught him. He asked everyone to help out if they notice any problems or have questions about the water system. He can be reached at 454-7173. He announced they will be replacing all the water meters in town in the months and years ahead. He does not know where 97% of them are and will be exercising all the curb stops and gateways. He appreciates any help on this as he does not want to flood peoples' houses. He is getting calls about water pressure reduction and he reminded folks they may or may not realized they have pressure reducers and to find them. Motion was approved.

Wastewater Systems Report: James Jamele moved to accept with a second from Daniel Marcus and the motion was approved by all.

Conservation Commission Report: Andy Robinson moved to accept with a second from Mary Niebling and the motion was approved by all.

E911 Report: Rick Levy moved to accept with a second from Jan Waterman and the motion was approved by all.

Fire and Rescue Report: Kate Harper moved to accept with a second from Rick Levy and the motion was approved by all.

Fast Squad Report: Jan Waterman moved to accept with a second from Leon Marasco and the motion was approved by all.

Cemetery Commission Report: Mary Niebling moved to accept with a second from Rachel Desilets. Rick Levy asked what information the auditor found out. Selectman Graves reported there is a new treasurer, the books have been gone over and it doesn't look like any problems. Sullivan and Powers will audit their books. Mr. Levy further asked for a timeline on the final report. Selectman Towbin said the Selectboard does not have control over it but share's Mr. Levy's concerns and the Selectboard looks forward to the final results. Motion was approved.

Recreation Committee Report: Peter Youngbaer moved to accept with a second from Jan Waterman. Peter, as a former recreation committee member, was very pleased with the committee's efforts and thanked them. Brenda Lindeman also gave her thanks on behalf of PACA. Motion was approved by all.

Plainfield Energy Coordinator Report: Laura Zeisel moved to accept with a second from Mary Niebling and the motion was approved by all.

Moderator Barasch reminded folks about signing up for any of the committees by using the form in the back of the Town Report.

Art. 3 Shall the Town of Plainfield appropriate the sum of \$8,333.00 as its share of the third year cost of commuter bus service along Route 2 with service into Montpelier. This appropriation funds a portion of the total cost of the service, which will also be supported by appropriations from other towns, a state grant, and rider fares?

Bob Atchinson gave a few highlights: it began in 2010 and Plainfield, Marshfield and East Montpelier share the costs. Plainfield has 18% riders or about 51 passengers daily and it is \$1.00/ride and 50 cents for senior citizens and students. You can also put your bike on the bus. Daniel Marcus asked about a midday bus and Bob encouraged him to contact the dispatcher persistently so a midday bus route can be established. Brenda Lindeman thanked Bob for his efforts into the many energy efficient programs. Motion was approved by all.

Art. 4 Shall the Town of Plainfield expend approximately \$40,000.00 for structural repairs and energy-saving improvements to the Town Hall of which \$15,000 shall be town funds with the remainder of the funds provided by the State of VT Division for Historic Preservation, US Department of Energy, and VT Energy and Climate Action Network?

Mary Niebling motioned to accept with a second from Deb Stoleroff. Bob Atchinson moved to amend the motion to add \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00 for a total of \$25,000.00 of town funds, seconded

by Sandra Ross. Selectman Strong reminded the town they voted last year for \$5000.00 to get assessments of condition of the town hall. Strong reported the \$15,000.00 will be used with a Vermont Historic preservation grant the town has received to make structural repairs that are needed. Last fall a Town Hall Advisory Committee was set up to look into all options about the Hall. Dave then introduced Lisa Ryan who chaired the committee. Lisa reported the town was awarded a \$19,600.00 grant and the town needs to match the grant with \$19,600.00. We currently have funding from other grants to offset the town match but we need \$15,000.00 more to raise the total town match. The \$40,000.00 represents the total needed for the structural repairs of which most is funded through grants awarded to the town. The Town Hall advisory committee came up

with 4 options: 1) Repair and Improve the Existing Structure at its current location, using this proposed \$40,000.00; 2) Move the Structure to another location with costs between \$120,000.00 to \$183,000.00 and the building must be stabilized prior to moving; The Rec Field and the Park 'n Ride properties were looked at as well.

Selectman Graves interjected that \$120,000.00 to \$180,000.00 is needed for roof and floor repair at the municipal building and if these things are not fixed the town could lose the rent from the School Superintendent's office and have to move the town offices again. Also the assessments received for fixing the town hall were for \$300,000.00 which did not include a new heating system, rewiring, or any of the mold remediation work. Personally he believes the \$40,000.00 will not amount to much.

Lisa responded stating the \$300,000.00 Selectman Graves mentioned is for 1) immediate building stabilization at a cost of \$40,000.00; 2) drainage and moisture remediation estimated to cost \$100,000 to \$150,000 and 3) timber framers recommendation to completely redo the structure and make it square as it is leaning between \$150,000 and \$180,000.00. The committee believes number three is not needed.

Selectman Towbin believes the committee did a very thorough job. He doesn't think the town is going to have a consensus on whether or not the town Hall is going to move forward. He believes Selectman Graves made some valid points but this is not a matter of the town spending \$15,000.00 and walking away. This is an old building but the town owns the land and this is an asset. What we are voting on today is should the town spend \$15,000.00 to get a \$40,000.00 repair on a town asset. If we choose to sell the building or use it for something else, it would not do us well to not spend the money for the repair.

A voter asked what would happen if the town did nothing right now. Lisa responded the building and property is valued at approximately \$306,000.00. If we do nothing that asset is at risk and can become a liability for the town. There is potential for serious structure damage from a snow overload, the building continues to deteriorate as floor joists are rotting and it poses a vandalism and/or vagrancy problem as an abandoned building.

Laura Zeisel thanked Lisa and the committee for the amount of work put forth (round of applause for the committee) and secondly she spoke against Bob Atchinson's amendment because spending the \$40,000.00 is a stop gap measure and we will still have to face future financial decisions on this building. She is in favor of Article IV as written because of the committees' thorough research.

Lisa Ryan continued on with option 3) Use another building or undertake new construction. She thanked the 200 respondents of about 450 surveys mailed out. One comment that was suggested by many was having a multifunctional building to include the library, town hall, municipal offices, etc. The committee received estimates of about \$150.00/square foot for new construction. The committee contacted other municipalities who constructed new town halls and they confirmed that was accurate estimate. However the Town of Ferrisburgh paid about \$600/square foot to rebuild their town hall. Also undertaking new construction has additional expenses of traffic studies, architectural designs, etc

Rick Levy moved to call a question and stop debate, motion was seconded and motion was approved by all. Moderator Barasch called for a motion to accept amendment of raising the amount from \$15,000.00 to \$25,000.00. Motion was defeated by a two-thirds vote.

Lister Sandra Ross stood up and said she has worked in both the now closed town hall and the new municipal building. The town has been going around and around on the repairs of this building but the fundamental issue is do we want to keep the town hall or don't want the town hall. Spending the \$40,000.00 does not decide if we want the building or not. She said getting the municipal building next to the fire station was a stop gap measure because nobody could breathe in the offices at the town hall. Either way if we keep the town hall or get a new one the town will have to spend money.

Meg Davis agrees with Lister Ross that the town has to decide if they want the town hall or not but in the meantime something has to be done with the existing building and the committee has done a great job in outlining what has to be done and favors their recommendations

Daniel Marcus asked can the building generate income to cover the future expenses? Lisa responded if we get the building stabilized and get most of the mold issue resolved, we can use the building again. In the past 5 years the rental income has covered the cost of heating and general maintenance and there is strong potential for the rental income to increase.

Steve Farnham wanted to know if the town votes for Article 4 what the steps are going forward. Selectman Strong said on January 27<sup>th</sup> of this year the town received an estimate of \$20,000.00 for the mold issue and a preliminary estimate for solving the drainage problem. The next step would be to accept the recommendations from Town Hall Advisory Committee, warn a special town meeting for "Phase II" repairs, and let the townspeople decide whether to go forward or not.

Kate Harper stated that whenever you own a building you will always have ongoing expenses. The way she sees it is do we want to bide some time and make a series of decisions beginning with approving this article because by not doing it the town is at risk and we should support this article now?

Another voter asked about location, traffic and pedestrian crossing. Selectman Strong responded that a study was conducted several years ago of the Route 2/Main Street intersection and AOT had approved a plan for a traffic signal to be installed at that intersection which would allow for safe crossing to the Town Hall. He reported that he is now a member of the Central VT Regional Planning Commission, which funded the study, and that the Select Board intends to bring it up again for consideration. He also reported there is property directly across the street from the Town Hall that may be going on the market soon that could potentially be used for increased Town Hall parking. Selectman Strong acknowledged that the current location is not ideal but that options are available. Ben Graham agreed that although the location is not ideal we still need to approve this article because we own it and need to care for it.

Peter Youngbaer asked if we do this stop gap measure can the building be used? Lisa Ryan answered yes as long as the mold levels are not dangerously high. He suggested forming an ad hoc committee as he did not know if the Advisory Committee is finished or will it continue. In looking to generations to come, he would like a professional analysis with emphasis on the drainage issue as he does not want revisit it again in 10 years.

Deb Stoleroff stated that she trusts that the Select Board and the Town Hall advisory committee will follow through. She called for a motion to stop debate, motion was seconded. The motion to stop debate passed by two-thirds vote.

The voters then voted on Article 4, budgeting \$15,000 in town funds to be used as matching monies as part of \$40,000 in structural repairs on the town hall, the motion was approved by all.

Art. 5 Shall the Town voters authorize the expenditures for the following not-for-profit service agencies as was recommended by the appointed Social Services Committee?

Battered Women's Services	\$ 525.00
Central VT Comm. Action Council	\$ 500.00
Central VT Council on Aging	\$ 1,750.00
Central VT Home Health & Hospice	\$ 2,500.00
Family Center of Washington County	\$ 400.00
Friends of the Winooski River	\$ 50.00
Good Beginnings of Central VT	\$ 300.00
Green Mountain Transit Agency	\$ 786.00
People's Health and Wellness	\$ 750.00
Retired Senior Volunteer Program	\$ 150.00
Onion River Foodshelf	\$ 1,000.00
Twinfield Together Mentoring	\$ 250.00
Twin Valley Senior Center	\$ 1,000.00
VT Association of the Blind	\$ 200.00
Washington Cty Court Diversion	\$ 200.00
Washington Cty Youth Service Bureau	\$ 300.00
Total	\$10,661.00

Donny Osman moved to accept with a second from Rick Levy.

Alex Forbes asked why the Sexual Assault Crisis Center was not included. Laura Zeisel, a member of the Social Concerns committee, stated that an application was never received for funds and explained the application procedure. Laura and Mary Niebling also on the committee reported that 18 applications were received last year and that only 16 applications were received this year. The committee did not know why both the Sexual Assault Crisis Center and the Twinfield Learning Center did not apply.

The ayes have it and the motion was approved by two- thirds vote.

Art. 6 Shall the Town voters authorize an appropriation of \$25,000.00 to the Cutler Memorial Library to pay for the librarian and the purchase of books and materials to support the mission of the library?

Carl Carlson moved to accept with a second from Elaine Parker.

The librarian, Loona Brogan, who is not a Plainfield resident, asked for permission to speak and the Moderator stated that, unless there is an objection, she may. There being no objection, she thanked everyone for additional funds and encouraged everyone to come visit the library. She announced the board of trustees has expanded the number of board positions in the hope of getting more help. She added that, aside from joining the board, people can help by joining a subcommittee such as the technology committee, etc. There was a round of applause for the Librarian.

The motion was approved by all.

Art. 7 To see what amount of money the Town will vote to pay for water and wastewater departments for the period of July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

Water and Wastewater Commissioner James Jamele motioned to approve Article 7 with a second from Water and Wasterwater Commissioner Carl Carlson.

It was asked how much money was being voting on. Commissioner Jamele stated \$130,822.00 for water and \$201,882.00 for wastewater. Moderator Barasch called for two separate motions.

Commissioner Jamele moved that the town approve the expenditure of \$130,822.00 for water with a second from Select Board Chair Gary Graves. The ayes have it and the motion is approved.

Commissioner Jamele moved that the town approve the expenditure of \$201,882.00 for wastewater with a second from Select Board Chair Graves. It was asked how many accounts are there. Water has 349 accounts and the wastewater is one account for a total of 350 accounts. The motion was then approved by all.

Art. 8 To see what amount of money the Town will vote to pay for highways, bridges, fire department, and administrative operations of the Town of Plainfield for the period of July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

Select Board Chair Graves took the floor and said that, before he made a motion, he wanted to announce that the Twinfield boys basketball team has a championship game this Saturday and the girls play tonight toward a possible championship game, as well.

He also acknowledged Pat Boyle's 20 years of service to the school board and asked her to stand up. Round of applause. Town Clerk Wells presented flowers to Pat Boyle. Clerk Wells then

thanked Selectman Graves for his three years on the board and his work especially for helping the town recover from the flood damage. She presented him with a certificate and gift card. Round of applause.

Selectman Graves then moved to the town to approve the amount of \$821,039.29 for the July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 Select Board/Highway Department budget with a second from Rick Levy.

The motion was amended by George Springston to add the amount of \$2,500.00 for the Conservation Commission's Conservation Fund into the Select Board budget with a second from Jan Waterman.

Charlie Cogbill, a member of the Conservation Commission, stated he would prefer in the future that the Conservation Fund allocation be included by the Select Board in the town's proposed budget rather than by petition, especially since Conservation Funds are used for town purposes. Selectman Towbin's personal opinion is that the \$2,500.00 would be well spent.

Jan Waterman, another Conservation Commission member, stated that the Commission works with property owners if they a conservation issue on their land. The Commission then processes it and brings it to the Selectboard for their decision on whether or not funds will be granted to the landowner. She would appreciate the petitioning process be done away with. Stuart Hancock asked about how to avoid the petitioning process. Selectman Graves answered they would have to bring their request before the board. Selectman Strong added that many items come up at Town Meeting which the Select Board takes note of and tries to follow up on in the coming year.

Deb Stoleroff moved to call a question and stop the debate, the motion was seconded. The motion passed with a 2/3 vote.

Moderator Barasch then asked the voters if they wanted to add the \$2,500.00 for the Conservation Fund to the Select Board/Highway Department budget for a total of \$823,539.29. More discussion ensued.

Laura Zeisel asked Selectman Graves where the line item was for building maintenance in light of the \$120,000.00 need for municipal building repairs. She asked him if the budgeted amount of \$10,000.00 is enough. Selectman Graves answered that normally \$10,000.00 is enough but not enough for the municipal building repairs. Amos Meacham asked about not having enough reserve funds for building repairs. Selectman Strong pointed out that rental income of about \$15,000/year from the municipal building does go to the municipal building reserve fund and currently there is about \$22,000.00 in that reserve fund.

Sarah Albert, as a former Zoning Administrator, asked why the line item for zoning-related legal fees jumped from \$750.00 to \$6,000.00. Selectman Graves responded that the Town had a costly suit this year and wanted to plan ahead. Selectman Strong added that most of those funds had formerly been in the Select Board's legal fee line item, and the Select Board decided to move them



to the “Zoning Legal” since that’s what they have been spent for.

Peter Youngbaer wanted to follow-up on Selectman Graves comment about the need for spending \$120,000.00 on repairs to the municipal building. Since it is not budgeted will the Select Board want a special meeting for more funds? Selectman Towbin said the Select Board wanted to have a clearer idea on where the town stood regarding the closed town hall building which would then influence how money would be spent. We did not want to commit that amount of money at this time. Selectman Strong added that the Select Board only had one very rough estimate for the job of leveling the floor in the upstairs rental space and so we do not have firm figure and are not prepared to vote on that now.

Lisa Ryan asked if there were going to be any financial reimbursements to the town caused by the May 2011 storm. Selectman Graves answered that the town opened a line of credit with Merchants Bank and as the town gets reimbursements from FEMA, it pays off the line of credit. About \$550,000.00 was spent on the May storm and Irene storm was only about \$12,000.00. But the town has two more projects: the culvert on the Country Club Road near Karen Storey’s house for about \$100,000.00 and about \$80,000.00 for the culvert off of Brook Road. Other projects include culverts that always get washed out but that FEMA will not help with, and so the Town is looking into State grant money for those.

Selectman Towbin personally thanked Selectman Graves for all his help in cleaning up the damage from the storms and for his guidance and advice going forward. Selectman Towbin announced that he wanted everyone to be aware there is a Flood Advisory Committee and meets every third Thursday to proreact so the town has a way of dealing with these events so it doesn’t bury the town office with a lot of paperwork. We developed recordkeeping and are looking into ways to fix the bridges in the village.

Steve Farnham asked what we learned from these storms and if it happens again, how we pay for repairs if FEMA can’t pay. Selectman Graves reported the Town had to temporarily fix things before FEMA could help and FEMA will pay for those fixes but not pay to fix it right. An example is the culvert on Upper and Gonyeau Roads. The town put in small culverts so people could get through but they actually need larger culverts and FEMA won’t pay for the larger culverts but they will pay for the town repair.

Lori Barg asked if the Select Board has updated the codes and standards for roads. Selectman Towbin said the key thing we learned from all this is documentation, documentation, documentation. FEMA and other government grants rely heavily on historic record of events and the best way to tackle these things is to bring our recordkeeping to a different level. For example, we need to identify how much money we spent over the last ten years on repairing such and such bridge rather than having the Town Clerk and Assistant go through reams and reams of papers to find that information. The government has strange requirements. For example, if the bridges failed, they could provide funds but the bridges did not fail, it was the roads that were washed away. Selectman Graves confirmed the Codes and Standards for roads were updated last year.

Moderator

Barasch asked the voters to vote on the amended Article 8 to include the \$2,500.00 in the town highway budget for a total of \$823,539.29. Amended article was approved by all.

Art. 9 Shall the Town of Plainfield authorize the Selectboard to apply any surplus from the current fiscal year to reduce taxes in the next fiscal year?

Peter Youngbaer moved to accept with a second from Bob Atchinson. Selectman Strong stated this answers Alex Forbes question brought up earlier about unexpended funds. That money is typically applied to reduce the following year's taxes. Some is also reserved for emergencies.

Amos Meacham asked more questions and Selectman Graves explained that if the town does not collect all the tax money owed, the town still has to pay the school tax but many times the Town has to borrow the money to pay and wait for the delinquent tax money to pay off the loan. FEMA will pay 75% and the State will pay 12.5% and the town comes up with rest.

Laura Zeisel moved to amend Article 9 to set aside 2% of the surplus of any fiscal year into a dedicated fund for maintenance of all town buildings to be spent at the discretion of the Selectboard with a second from Bob Atchinson.

Moderator allowed Clerk Wells to interject that we do have funds set aside for maintenance for the fire station, highway building, the municipal building and to consider how the money from a dedicated building fund will be spent. Amos Meacham and Lisa Ryan asked what 2% of any surplus would look like. For example, what was the amount of last fiscal year's surplus? What is the projected surplus for next fiscal year? Meg Davis asked if there is a surplus every year. Clerk Wells answered "yes, usually, but a couple of years ago, no, and we don't know yet for this year because of the storm." Clerk Wells stated that the State has not provided all funds, more projects have to be completed and FEMA will not help until those are finished. Therefore, it is either open a full line of credit and pay it off using funds from the Town coffers. We do not know what the financial status will be for the Town this coming June.

Elaine Parker likes Laura's idea because it less cumbersome and hard to predict what expenses would be. Bob Atchinson said it would be better to have something set aside at the end of each year rather than nothing.

Moderator Barasch asked to vote on the amendment to apply 2% of the surplus into a dedicated fund for all municipal buildings to be spent at the discretion of the Selectboard. The ayes have it by a two-thirds vote.

Art.10 Shall the Town vote to accept the provisions of public statutes relating to the collection of taxes by the Town Treasurer, (VSA 32 Section 4791) and vote to collect municipal taxes thirty days from mailing and not prior to August 1, 2012 and collect school taxes on November 14, 2012 and February 13, 2013, collecting half of the total school taxes on each of those dates?

Gary Graves moved to accept with a second from Daniel Marcus. Clerk Wells stated that we now have a drop off box to pay your taxes but remember on tax day it still has to be in the drop box by 4:00 PM. If you don't get there by 4:00 PM then go to the Post Office and have it postmarked.

The motion was approved by all.

Art.11 In the light of the United States Supreme Court's Citizens United decision that equates money with speech and gives corporations rights constitutionally intended for natural persons, shall the Town of Plainfield vote on Tuesday, March 6, 2012 to urge the Vermont Congressional Delegation and the U.S. Congress to propose a U.S. Constitutional amendment for the State's consideration which provides that money is not speech, and that corporations are not persons under the U.S. Constitution, that the General Assembly of the State of Vermont pass a similar resolution, and that the town send its resolution to Vermont State and Federal representatives within thirty days of passage of this measure?

Sarah Albert moved to accept with a second from Donny Osman. Deb Stoleroff introduced this Article and gave a lengthy explanation.

Motion was approved by a two-thirds vote.

Art.12 To transact any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

Lisa Ryan thanked the town for the vote in favor of the Town Hall Advisory Committee's recommendation to proceed with Phase I repairs to the Town Hall and invited anyone who wished to contribute their time to the effort to restore the Town Hall to contact her.

Bob Atchinson, the town Energy Coordinator, introduced an article regarding the PACE energy program (Property Assessed Clean Energy). He asked the town "Shall the voters designate the Town of Plainfield as a Property Assessed Clean Energy District under 24 V.S.A, 3261, et sequ., and authorize the Select Board to enter into an agreement with Efficiency Vermont under which Efficiency Vermont will be authorized to (a) administer the PACE home energy improvements program on behalf of the Town, and (b) arrange for the provision of financing to participating property owners through the PACE program, provided that such financing does not require any indebtedness to be incurred by the Town?"

After a lengthy explanation and debate Matt Leonard called the question to stop debate with a second from Lisa Ryan and the motion to stop debate was approved by two-thirds vote. Moderator Barasch reminded the town that this article is non-binding. The ayes have it by a two thirds vote and the motion is approved.

Peter Youngbaer made a motion that the Town urge the Select Board to appoint a municipal building advisory committee to bring recommendations to the Town for a long term solution for the Town Hall and other municipal functions. The committee shall examine options including:

renovation, new construction, and relocation. It should also include the opportunities for other functions including cultural, recreational, and entrepreneurial activities. The options presented should include detailed cost estimates including site acquisition and funding sources and the advisability of establishing a reserve fund for long term maintenance. The motion was seconded by Bob Atchinson.

Selectman Strong stated that while he supported the spirit of the motion, this kind of study is costly. It would be a long term process with extensive research, many public hearings, etc. and there is nothing in the FY 13 budget for this.

After further discussion, the Moderator called for a vote on the motion and the motion was approved by a two-thirds vote.

1:10 PM Selectman Graves moved to adjourn with a second from Selectman Towbin and the motion passed by all.

Respectfully submitted, Jeanne Lamica

Selectman Bram Towbin made a motion to approve minutes as amended June 11, 2012, motion was seconded by Alice Merrill. The motion was approved.