

OFFICIAL WARRANT FOR THE TOWN OF NORTHPORT
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
To be held on April 25, 2018
Special Town Meeting Minutes

To: Jeanine Tucker, Town Clerk of the Town of Northport in the County of Waldo, State of Maine.

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Northport in said County and State, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to appear at the Edna Drinkwater School at 7:30p.m., Wednesday April 25, 2018, there and then to act upon Articles 1 through 3 inclusive.

There were 49 Northport residents in attendance.

Town Clerk Jeanine Tucker opened the Special Town Meeting at 7:45p.m.

Tucker explained that David Foley had volunteered to serve as Moderator over this Special Town Meeting, but would require three ballots be cast after nominations were made.

Article 1: To Choose a Moderator to preside at the meeting.

Tucker read the Article and called for nominations. Motion was made by Paul Sheridan and second was made by Shelly Fein to nominate David Foley as Moderator. Tucker collected three written ballots for Foley from the group.

Foley was sworn in as Moderator.

Foley explained procedure of Town Meeting regarding motions and amendments, moving discussion and passing over Articles.

Article 2: To see if the voters of the Town of Northport will vote to exercise the right of first refusal the Town has to purchase the property of the Belfast Water District identified in Northport as Tax Map U1, Lot6.

Explanatory Note:

A YES vote on Article 2 means the Town of Northport does want to exercise its right of first refusal, and purchase the property from the Belfast Water District.

A NO vote on Article 2 means the Town of Northport does not want to exercise its right of first refusal and does not want to purchase the property from the Belfast Water District.

Foley read the Article and called for a motion. Motion was made by Paul Nyren and second was made by John Dykstra to move the Article as written. Foley called for comments and discussion.

Resident Dr. Block stated that, as much as he believes the town of Northport should own its own land, Coastal Mountains Land Trust (CMLT) is paying the City of Belfast a great deal to ensure the land is protected as conservation land and he is inclined to let the City of Belfast purchase the property from the Belfast Water District as intended, so that it may transfer it to CMLT.

Resident Ethan Dubrow asked where funds would come from if Northport exercised its right to purchase the property. Foley explained that Article 3 addresses that response and the matter to be decided on is whether or not to purchase the property, but allowed the Board to respond. Vice Chairman Drexell White stated that funds would be taken from the Undesignated Fund Balance, which is an account that does not have a designated purpose.

Resident Shelly Fein urged Northport residents to express their opinion in the permitting process for Nordic Aqua Farms, but she would vote no on purchasing the property.

Another Resident questioned why the Town should expend funds on the property if it is going to stay in conservation anyway.

One resident stated that many roads are paved with good intentions, but he would vote to purchase the property, he would want more than "good intentions". Resident Suzanne Dubrow echoed that sentiment adding that she would like to have a say, but if the Town gives the property away they have lost their say.

Resident Reeves Gilmore called the question, Foley explained there would need to be a two-thirds vote in favor of closing the discussion and move the question to vote. Foley asked for a show of hands, majority was in favor to move the Article. Article was moved to vote.

Foley explained that a "Yes" vote would mean that the Town does want to purchase the property and a "No" vote means that the town is not interested in the property.

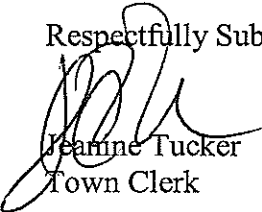
Result was 15 Yes and 27 No.

Article 3: In the event the Town votes in Article 2 to exercise its right of first refusal, and purchase the property listed as Tax Map U1 Lot6 from the Belfast Water District, shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to exercise its right of first refusal and purchase the property for an amount not to exceed \$35,000.00 (thirty-five thousand dollars) with funds to be appropriated from the Town's undesignated fund balance.

Foley read Article 3 into record. Article was moved as not relevant and was passed over. All in favor- none opposed.

Motion was made by Reeves Gilmore, second by Paul Sheridan to adjourn at 8p.m. All in favor- none opposed.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jeanine Tucker
Town Clerk