

DRAFT AGENDA
Annual Town Meeting
March 4 and March 5, 2019

The legal voters of the Town of Middlebury, in the County of Addison, the State of Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Middlebury Union High School Auditorium at 73 Charles Avenue in Middlebury on Monday, March 4, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. to act on Articles 1 through 8; and on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 from 7:00 A.M. through 7:00 P.M. at the Town Offices, 77 Main Street in Middlebury, to vote by Australian ballot on Articles 9 through 13 as provided by the Middlebury Town Charter.

Article 1 To act upon the reports of the Town Officers.

Introduce Members of the Board – The Moderator will introduce members of the Board: Brian Carpenter, Nick Artim, Laura Asermily, Heather Seeley, Victor Nuovo, Farhad Khan & Lindsey Fuentes-George.

Request admittance for the non-resident members of the Town administration: The Moderator will request a motion to admit the following non-resident members of the Town administration to the meeting: Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay, Assistant Town Manager Chris English, Director of Public Works Planning Dan Werner, Director of Public Works Operations Bill Kernan, Library Director Dana Hart and Fire Chief David Shaw, and Michael McAuliffe, President, Friends of Middlebury Hockey, who will be presenting on Article 7.

[Note regarding microphones: Before introducing Brian Carpenter to review 2018 Highlights, the Moderator is asked to make the following announcement: *“In response to your comments from the last Town Meeting held in this space in 2017, there are four microphones available for your use tonight – two stationary floor mics in the aisles up front, and two wireless mics.*

We encourage you to use the floor mics, if possible, since the sound quality is usually better. However, if you would like to address the meeting from your seat, kindly raise your hand and one of our runners will bring a wireless microphone to you. Please wait until you have the microphone in hand before you begin speaking and remember to hold the microphone up to your mouth. Thank you!”]

Highlights of 2018 - Selectboard Chair Brian Carpenter

Dedication of Town Report -- Selectboard Member Nick Artim

Article 2 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury vote, pursuant to 24 VSA § 2804(a), to authorize the Selectboard to apply \$400,000 from the Cross Street Bridge Reserve Fund to offset increased spending for Capital Improvements in the FY20 General Fund Budget and stabilize the FY20 tax rate?

Selectboard Chair Brian Carpenter and Selectboard Member & Infrastructure Committee Chair Heather Seeley

Article 3 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury authorize the Selectboard, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §1786a(b), to replace Town Vehicles and Equipment in accordance with the schedule hereinafter set forth and to finance the purchase of same by borrowing funds in a total amount not to exceed \$133,470 over a term not to exceed five (5) years?

[The Schedule of Vehicles and Equipment is: a). One (1) police cruiser and related equipment; b). One (1) dump truck/snow plow and related equipment; and c). One (1) pick-up truck for use by the Recreation Department].

Selectboard Member & Infrastructure Committee Chair Heather Seeley

Article 4 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury vote to adopt the proposed budget for the Fiscal Year 2020 (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020) in the amount of \$11,155,400 with a portion thereof in the amount of \$7,836,854 to be raised by taxes?

Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay will give a brief overview of the FY2020 General Fund Operating Budget, including major budget drivers. Kathleen will also briefly mention/highlight the social service agencies as provided under the Selectboard's Health and Human Services Funding Policy: HOPE (Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects); RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteers); Addison County Readers; and the Otter Creek Natural Resource Conservation District. Infrastructure Committee Chair Heather Seeley will give an overview of the Capital Improvement Budget for FY2020.

Kathleen Ramsay will close the presentation with information about the estimated tax rate for FY20 and the budget outlook for FY20 and beyond.

Department Heads & Selectboard Members are available to answer any questions voters may have:

General Government & Revenues: Kathleen Ramsay

Libraries: Library Director Dana Hart

Police Department: Police Chief Tom Hanley

Fire Department: Fire Chief David Shaw

Public Works & Parks & Recreation Departments: Director of Public Works Operations Bill Kernan

Capital Improvements: Public Works Planning Director Dan Werner

Article 5 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury vote to collect taxes on real property for fiscal year 2019/2020 in TWO equal installments due in the Treasurer's Office on the 15th day of October 2019 and the 15th day of March 2020?

Treasurer Jackie Sullivan (if needed). Due to the timing of the reappraisal, in order to accommodate the grievance schedule and to allow for adequate time to prepare tax bills, voters will

be asked to approve a change in the due dates for tax payments to two payments – October 15, 2019 and March 15, 2020.

Article 6 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury vote, pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 1674, to set the penalty charged by the collector of delinquent taxes for delinquent tax payments as follows: no penalty for any balance paid by the due date for the final installment; a 1% penalty on any balance not paid by the due date for the final installment; and an additional 7% penalty on any balance not paid within 10 days of the due date of the final installment? Interest will continue to be charged on each installment not paid by the due date at the rates previously approved by the Town at the March 2016 Town Meeting, i.e., 1% per month or fraction thereof for the first three months, and thereafter 1.5% per month for each month or fraction thereof.

Treasurer Jackie Sullivan (if needed). This article makes interest and penalty provisions for delinquent tax collections consistent with the two tax due dates provided in Article 5.

Article 7 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury authorize the Selectboard, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §1786a(b), to borrow funds to finance improvements to the Memorial Sports Center in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 to be financed over a period not to exceed five (5) years.

Friends of Middlebury Hockey President Michael McAuliffe.

In consultation with Friends of Middlebury Hockey, National Bank of Middlebury and Bond Counsel, in order to achieve the desired 15-year borrowing period for financing the improvements, the following amendment will be offered before the presentation:

Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury authorize the Selectboard to borrow a sum not to exceed \$100,000, payable over an initial term of five years, subject to refunding at maturity, for the purpose of financing improvements to the Memorial Sports Center?

Article 8 To transact other business proper to be done.

- Candidates for elected offices may introduce themselves
- Town Meeting Poll: Selectboard Member Laura Asermily
- 350VT Climate Solution Resolution
- Habitat for Humanity of Addison County
- Ban on Single-Use Carry Out Plastic Bags – presentation by Amelia Miller, Gaen Murphree & Amy McAninch