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Town of Middlebury
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
Middlebury Union High School auditorium
Monday, March 2, 2020

Town Meeting Minutes

D R A F T

Citing the warning to the legal voters of Middlebury, Moderator Susan Shashok called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Susan explained the basic meeting rules, noting that action will be taken only on warned Articles before voters.

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

Ann Webster moved to adopt Article 1; John Barstow seconded.

Moderator Shashok introduced Selectboard members Brian Carpenter, Heather Seeley, Nick Artim, Victor Nuovo, Lindsey Fuentes-George, Farhad Khan, and Laura Asermily, as well as Town Clerk Ann Webster and Board clerk Peggy Connor.

Moderator Shashok requested admittance to the meeting for the following non-resident members of the town administration, and representatives of agencies requesting funding: 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, Fire Chief David Shaw, Ben Fuller of Middlebury Regional EMS, and Jeanette Gyukeri of the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity.

NO OBJECTION

For those watching the live stream on MCTV at home, Selectboard member Laura Asermily provided an overview of the Town's website at www.townofmiddlebury.org where all of the presentations at Town Meeting can be found online, as well as Town budget information, public notices, and Town staff contact information.

Selectboard Chair Brian Carpenter welcomed community members, and reported that the Board has overseen a full slate over the past year, including two successfully completed projects: 1) installation of the Seymour Street/Pulp Mill Bridge sidewalk; and 2) construction of the Lions Club picnic pavilion at the Rec Park. Focus remains on capital planning and infrastructure improvements, which will be addressed under Article 6, while Articles 8-11 will be decided by Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 3rd. In the coming months, the Selectboard will consider recommendations from the Creek Road Task Force in the development of policy for siting of solar projects; working with the Ilsley Library trustees on the expansion or new library facilities; addressing homelessness; and the ongoing downtown bridge projects -- for which a full report will be made on Tuesday, April 7th at the Unitarian Universalist Society on Charles Avenue at 7:00 p.m.

For the dedication of the Town Report, Selectboard member Victor Nuovo noted that it is fitting and with gratitude that the 2019 Town Report is dedicated to the Battell Trustees who have made possible the conservation of hundreds of acres of land throughout the Town, a mission

51 begun by philanthropist and Middlebury College alum Joseph Battell in the 1860's.

52
53 Selectboard member Farhad Khan presented a plaque recognizing outgoing Selectboard
54 member Laura Asermily for her service over the past six years, especially her work on the
55 Energy and Health Committees, ACTR, and her continued efforts to make the Town of
56 Middlebury safer for both bicyclists and pedestrians.

57
58 Also recognized for his 32 years of service in law enforcement to the Town of Middlebury was
59 Scott Fisher.

60
61 Parks & Recreation Department Superintendent Dustin Hunt and Program Coordinator Scott
62 Bourne presented the 2019 Robert E. Collins Award to coaches Karen and Todd Duguay in
63 recognition of their dedication of countless hours volunteering to help coach and referee soccer,
64 basketball, and baseball.

65
66 **MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE**

67 **ARTICLE 1 ADOPTED**

68
69 **ARTICLE 2 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury authorize the Selectboard,**
70 **pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §1786a(b), to replace Two (2) police cruisers and related equipment**
71 **and to finance the purchase of same by borrowing funds in a total amount not to exceed**
72 **\$80,000 over a term not to exceed five (5) years?**

73
74 ***Heather Seeley moved to adopt Article 2; Farhad Khan seconded.***

75
76 Selectboard member Nick Artim explained that, in accordance with the ongoing replacement
77 schedule in effect for the past 15 years, voters are asked to authorize the Selectboard to borrow
78 \$80,000 for two police cruisers and related equipment. Nick noted that the Board continues to
79 research the efficiency and performance of hybrid vehicles for the department's fleet in the
80 future.

81
82 Noting that voters are asked each year to authorize the purchase of police cruisers, Dave
83 Silverman asked why funds are not allocated in the budget automatically. Town Manager
84 Kathleen Ramsay indicated that allocating funds for replacement vehicles is being proposed in
85 the Highway Department; therefore, voters can expect funding to be part of the budget next
86 year.

87
88 **MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE**

89 **ARTICLE 2 ADOPTED**

90
91 **ARTICLE 3 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury vote to adopt the proposed budget**
92 **for the Fiscal Year 2021 (July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021) in the amount of \$11,503,680, with a**
93 **portion thereof in the amount of \$7,498,204 to be raised by taxes and \$583,745 to be**
94 **allocated from annual local option tax receipts in excess of debt and maintenance**
95 **requirements of the Cross Street Bridge to offset spending for Capital Improvements?**

96
97 ***John Barstow moved to adopt Article 3; Farhad Khan seconded.***

98
99 Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay reviewed the proposed 2021 budget, noting an increase of
100 0.0062 in the municipal tax rate. Major drivers include increases in wages and benefits
101 (\$194,456), the Department of Public Works Equipment Fund (\$239,462), and Capital

102 Improvements (\$175,789). In 2008, voters approved a special tax of 1% assessment on sales,
103 rooms, meals and alcohol as a means of covering the community's annual share of \$600,000 in
104 debt service over 30 years for the \$16 million Cross Street Bridge project. The fund, which now
105 stands at \$2.5 million, has been raising considerably more than is needed to cover debt and
106 maintenance of the Cross Street Bridge. During public hearings on the Local Option Tax/Cross
107 Street Bridge Fund surplus, citizens asked the Selectboard to use cash-on-hand to minimize
108 increases in the tax rate; use reserves and/or Local Option Tax revenue to fund infrastructure
109 improvement projects; and reduce amounts borrowed and/or interest expense. In response, the
110 Selectboard has put forth a budget for FY21 that applies an additional \$50,000 to stabilize the
111 tax rate; increases the amount of surplus funds dedicated to capital improvements from
112 \$400,000 in FY20 to \$583,745 in FY21 (Article 8); uses the local option tax fund balance to
113 defray interest expense for debt incurred for Flood Resiliency Improvements (Article 9), the
114 Police Department Adaptive Reuse Project (Article 10); and applies \$192,462 to capitalize the
115 Equipment Fund. The Board also opted for a shorter borrowing term of 7 years versus the
116 customary 20 years, saving tens of thousands of dollars in interest expense.

117
118 Kathleen noted that the proposed budget includes allocations for the following agencies serving
119 the Town of Middlebury: End of Life Services, \$3,000 (an increase of \$1,000 from FY20);
120 Middlebury Area Land Trust, \$7,000 (an increase of \$1,600 from FY20); and Better Middlebury
121 Partnership, \$25,000 (the same amount as FY20).

122
123 DISCUSSION:

124
125 Susan McGarry asked if Middlebury residents should anticipate a significant tax increase
126 following the recent re-appraisals. Town Manager Ramsay explained that, because the amount
127 to be raised by taxes is divided by property value, it may be divided differently but represents
128 the same pie.

129
130 Roger Desautels asked the cost of health insurance for municipal staff. Kathleen indicated the
131 cost is approximately \$600,000.

132
133 Referring to the list of time-sensitive community projects, Thomas Williams expressed concern
134 with the parking layout for the new passenger rail platform on Middlebury Seymour Street, and
135 asked if a sidewalk is included in the plans. Kathleen noted that concerns raised at the public
136 meetings about the project have been relayed to the engineer, but that there is no funding for
137 sidewalks at this time.

138
139 George Tucker asked if a street sweeper is included in the budget. Kathleen responded that the
140 Town currently has a 20-year-old sweeper in use.

141
142 Regarding the Public Safety Budget and the over-time line item, Jason Duquette-Hoffman asked
143 about the status of hiring additional police officers. Chief Tom Hanley noted that his budget
144 reflected a normal year; however, in the past two years, 3 officers have been out due to injuries.
145 Although the department is careful in managing over-time, it must operate 24/7, with officers
146 typically working 16-hour shifts, with 8 hours off. In terms of replacements, the training process
147 is lengthy from the time an officer completes training at the academy to working full-time for the
148 department.

149
150 Incensed that the police department must operate on a 24/7 basis without sufficient staff,
151 Andrea Galiano suggested contracting with the Sheriff's Department or Vermont State Police.

152 Ms. Galiano asked if Scott Fisher would consider coming out of retirement, or if additional funds
153 might be diverted to the police department.

154
155 Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay explained that Chief Hanley annually prepares a
156 comprehensive budget, and in turn, the Selectboard has responded with full funding for the
157 department's budget. Chief Hanley reiterated the long process to replace officers, and that
158 injuries are unforeseen. Having four officers out all at once is extraordinary. He noted that, by
159 law, the Vermont State Police cannot contract with the Town Police.

160
161 Dave Silverman pointed out that the Police Department budget represents 20% of the budget,
162 and with new cruisers being purchased, he asked that the Selectboard think more broadly in
163 addressing public safety issues with the right tools; i.e. social service programs. Jason
164 Duquette-Hoffman added that, given the significant number of overtime hours, he suggested
165 that the percentage of cases involving mental health issues may be better served by social
166 services. Chief Hanley noted that the department continues to work with the counseling service;
167 however, there is no support from the State having a clinician on Board. He added that his
168 department is strictly first response that requires a police officer.

169
170 Brockton Corbett asked the number of employees across all departments. Town Manager
171 Kathleen Ramsay responded that the town employs 55 full-time employees.

172
173 **MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE**
174 **ARTICLE 3 ADOPTED**

175
176 **ARTICLE 4 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury vote to increase its appropriation**
177 **for Middlebury Regional Emergency & Medical Services (MREMS) by \$63,720, from**
178 **\$21,240 to \$84,960, to support MREM's mission to provide quality emergency medical**
179 **services, including paramedic and heavy rescue service, emergency dispatch and**
180 **answering, medical education, and community research?**

181
182 MREMS representatives Jeff Carpenter and David Fuller provided an overview of MREM's
183 services to the Town, including paramedic and heavy rescue to 17,000 residents in 10 Addison
184 County towns. Noting that Middlebury generates around 40% of MREM's annual calls for
185 ambulance service, voters are being asked to increase their commitment from \$21,240 to
186 \$84,960 for fiscal year 2021. Residents in the other nine towns covered by MREMS will similarly
187 be asked to support what amounts to a per-capital increase from \$2.50 to \$10. Current
188 revenues are not sufficient to help the organization update its ambulance fleet, and pay its staff
189 competitive wages.

190
191 Ken Perine pointed out while there is no question about the level of care and professionalism
192 provided by MREMS, the increase being asked of Middlebury voters is significant. Ken asked if
193 the Selectboard had undergone an interview process with MREMS similar to other non-profits.

194
195 Selectboard Chair Brian Carpenter explained that although the Board did not follow the normal
196 process, it did meet with representatives of MREMS to ask them questions. He added that with
197 such a significant increase in funding being asked of Middlebury voters, the Selectboard should
198 have full oversight of those funds, and would have preferred to fully vet MREMS.

199
200 ***Victoria DeWind moved to amend Article 4 to a one-year request, at which time the matter***
201 ***would be revisited and allow time for the Selectboard to more thoroughly consider the***
202 ***request.***

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Max Krause seconded the amendment to Article 4.

DISCUSSION ON AMENDMENT:

Dan Brown asked if the Selectboard would consider a vetting process prior to voter approval this year.

Selectboard member Heather Seeley indicated that the request did not come before the Board in time to fully consider the matter, which is why the Board decided to bring the request before voters for discussion and consideration.

Noting that all agree that MREMS provides a tremendous service, Max Krause pointed out that Article 4 appears to be for one year only, and supports the amendment.

Chip Malcolm also expressed his support for MREMS; however, he noted that the funding being asked of Middlebury voters is not an endowment but rather to replace equipment, which is better done privately by non-profits since the Town has no control over the equipment. Malcolm added that there appears to be a notable discrepancy between the amount being asked of Middlebury voters versus surrounding towns.

Albert Perry agreed that Article 6 as written appears to be a one-year request, but would support the amendment. Alison Nihart noted that a one-year request seemed reasonable, adding that the Town of Middlebury does not otherwise have a publicly funded service.

May Williams expressed her strong support for MREMS, having received excellent care recently. Mark Mooney agreed; however, compared to other non-profit requests, MREMS is asking for a quadruple increase for one year, a request he believes should be fully vetted by the Selectboard.

Selectboard Heather Seeley clarified that typically only new non-profits are voted by Australian ballot, and while the Board could have opted to include the request made by MREMS on the ballot, because it came to the Board late in the budget process, it was the decision of the Selectboard to bring the Article before voters at Town Meeting.

Linda Horn called the question.

MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE TO CALL THE QUESTION

MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE
AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 4 ADOPTED

George Tucker stressed the need to look at the issue from a fiscal standpoint, and allow the Selectboard time to do their job. Mary Chapman pointed out that Article 4 is not a budget issue but a responsibility issue, noting that when her daughter was hit by a car, MREMS arrived in minutes and saved her daughter's life.

Bruce Meacham asked if the percentage per capita was the same for surrounding towns. Dave Fuller answered that, yes, every town is being asked to increase their funding at the same level.

Diane Lawson noted that she could not remember another time when voters were asked to

254 contribute to a charity's capital improvement fund, and supported allowing the Selectboard more
255 time to further consider the request. Jason Duquette-Hoffman suggested voters reframe their
256 thinking on these kinds of line items; perhaps the Town should purchase ambulances much like
257 it does police cruisers or, in the alternative, trust MREMS to do so on behalf of the Town. He
258 contended that, as a non-profit, it makes MREMS a better value.

259
260 John Balparda asked if Selectboard members had reviewed a budget or financial statement
261 from MREMS. Dave Fuller noted that the organization had provided the Selectboard its most
262 recent audit, and welcome their participation, as well as community members, to serve on the
263 MREMS Board.

264
265 ***John Tenny moved to table the motion to allow vetting by the Selectboard; Farhad Khan***
266 ***seconded.***

267
268 **MOTION TO TABLE FAILED BY SHOW OF HANDS**

269
270 Tyler Ayers offered an alternative to approve the budget, allow the Selectboard to do its due
271 diligence to vet MREMS, and then amend the budget should anything inappropriate be
272 discovered. Moderator Susan Shashok pointed out that the motion was out of order as the
273 Article had been warned.

274
275 ***Nancy Morgan called the question.***

276
277 **MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE TO CALL THE QUESTION**

278
279 **MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE**
280 **ARTICLE 4 ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

281
282 **ARTICLE 5 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury vote to collect taxes on real**
283 **property for fiscal year 2020/2021 in TWO equal installments due in the Treasurer's Office**
284 **on the 15th day of October 2020 and the 15th day of March 2021?**

285
286 ***Ann Webster moved to adopt Article 5; Gary Baker seconded.***

287
288 Steve Gross recalled that three installment payments were reduced to two for one year only last
289 year. Town Manager Kathleen Ramsay explained that the decision to do so was to lessen
290 downtown traffic during bridge construction. She added that for anyone who wishes to spread
291 payments into three installments may make arrangements with the Town Treasurer. Maja
292 Zimmermann opposed the change for two installment payments per year, citing a significant
293 burden to taxpayers, and that most do not drive into town just to pay their taxes. Town
294 Treasurer Jackie Sullivan noted however that she has seen about a third of the Town's
295 residents come to her office to pay taxes. Jackie added that it is not uncommon to receive some
296 150 revised bills from the State, and that payment plans are encouraged.

297
298 Chip Malcolm noted that voters approved two installment payments last year as a result of
299 property re-appraisals, and he agreed that three payments works better for taxpayers. John
300 Barslow concurred, and suggested that the goal is to attract people to the downtown area during
301 construction. Ann LaFiandra understood the Town Treasurer's point, but hoped to revert back to
302 a three-payment plan next year.

303
304 Ross Conrad asked what the results would be should voters not approve Article 5.

305
306 ***Robin Scheu moved to amend Article 5 to three equal installments due in the Treasurer's***
307 ***Office on the 15th of August 2020, the 15th day of November 2020, and the 15th day of***
308 ***March 2021.***

309
310 ***Andrew Anderson seconded the amendment.***

311
312 ***Linda Horn called the question on the amendment.***

313
314 **MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE TO CALL THE QUESTION**
315 **ON THE AMENDMENT**

316
317 **MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE**
318 **AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 5 ADOPTED AS AMENDED**

319
320 **ARTICLE 6 Shall the voters of the Town of Middlebury vote, pursuant to 24 VSA §**
321 **2409(a), to authorize the Selectboard to apply up to One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) from**
322 **the Cross Street Bridge Reserve Fund for the purpose of funding water system**
323 **improvements for the Court Square area (including the intersection of Main Street/North**
324 **Pleasant Street (Route 7/Seymour Street) Court Street (Route 7) from Court Square to**
325 **Cross Street, and Washington Street from Court Square to Seminary Street?**

326
327 ***John Tenny moved to adopt Article 6; Lindsey Fuentes-George seconded.***

328
329 Selectboard member Heather Seeley explained that the project will replace 3,210 feet of
330 outdated and deteriorating water main with new 12-inch main. Work is scheduled to begin this
331 fall after the new downtown tunnel is installed. Noting that the Vermont Agency of
332 Transportation is scheduled to repave Class 1 highways, including Routes 30, 125 and 7, it is
333 important to complete the water main project prior to paving to avoid the cost of re-digging. In
334 addition to the one million dollars from the Cross Street Bridge Reserve Fund, it is anticipated
335 that the remaining \$1.5 million for the project will be funded by potential grants and phased-in
336 rate increases for water system users.

337
338 Thomas Williams asked if any of the work could get done before the tunnel project is completed.
339 Heather noted that it is anticipated that work will begin after the tunnel project is finished, with
340 most of the work being done at night.

341
342 Bruce Meacham asked about the condition of the Town's other utilities. Director of Public Works
343 Planning Dan Werner indicated there have been some recent storm sewer repairs on Court
344 Street in anticipation of the Class I paving project.

345
346 Tyler Ayers asked about the impact on ratepayers. Selectboard member Heather Seeley noted
347 that the project is not out to bid yet, and that the Board may offer only estimates at this time. If
348 voters approve, the next stage would be to put the project out to bid, and following phases A
349 and B, numbers should be available by the end of April. Dan Werner added that bids are
350 scheduled to go out on Thursday and due back by the end of March. Heather also pointed out
351 that with community support, comes greater opportunities for grant funding.

352
353 ***Tim Williams called the question.***

354
355 **MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE TO CALL THE QUESTION**

356
357 **MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE**
358 **ARTICLE 6 ADOPTED**
359

360 **Article 7 To transact other business proper to be done.**

361
362 **[For voting by Australian Ballot on Tuesday, March 3,2020, polls open from 7:00 A.M. to**
363 **7:00 P.M.]**

364
365 **Article 8 Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Middlebury in an amount**
366 **not to exceed Two Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$2,500,000), subject to**
367 **reduction from available alternate sources of funding, be issued for the purpose of**
368 **financing construction of water system transmission and distribution improvements**
369 **related to the Court Square area (including the intersection of Main Street/North Pleasant**
370 **Street (Route7)/Seymour Street) Court Street (Route 7) from Court Square to Cross**
371 **Street, and Washington Street from Court Square to Seminary Street project, the**
372 **estimated cost of such improvements being Two Million Five Hundred Thousand**
373 **Dollars?**
374

375
376
377 Selectboard member Heather Seeley reiterated that a successful bond vote will open the door
378 to state grant opportunities, including low-interest-rate financing and/or loan forgiveness
379 programs that could potentially offset or eliminate the need to bond for the water system
380 projects. The programs, however, require evidence of community support in order for the town
381 to qualify.

382
383 Frank Winkler noted that the budget does not address infrastructure in general, and suggested
384 that with the water main and pavement projects, now would be a good time to consider installing
385 all underground utilities. He pointed to the recent infrastructure improvements in Brandon, and
386 encouraged the Selectboard to consider accomplishing underground utilities for the Town of
387 Middlebury. Ross Conrad agreed, adding that underground utilities are more resilient to extreme
388 weather events.

389
390 **Article 9 Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Middlebury in an amount**
391 **not to exceed Two Million (\$2,000,000), subject to reduction from available alternate**
392 **sources of funding, be issued for the purpose of financing construction of Flood**
393 **Resiliency Improvements for the Village of East Middlebury including: (1) repair the**
394 **existing flood wall and extend the flood wall 150 feet downstream (\$1,000,000); (2)**
395 **armoring sections of the Ossie Road Berm (\$800,000); and removing sediment from**
396 **chute entrances and the top of large bars (\$200,000), the total estimated cost of such**
397 **improvements being Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000), with the Town's portion of the**
398 **project cost estimated at Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000)?**
399

400 Selectboard Chair Brian Carpenter explained that the East Middlebury Flood Resiliency Project
401 has been in the planning stages for several years. Tropical Storm Irene deposited several feet
402 of sediment upstream of the Grist Mill Road Bridge, and more than six feet of scour took place
403 along the retaining wall just downstream from the span. Officials estimate the 2017 flood shaved
404 up to 50 feet off the riverbank. While voters are being asked to support up to \$2 million in bond
405 financing, the town's obligation will be limited to \$500,000 because the Federal Emergency
406 Management Agency (FEMA) has agreed to fund \$1.5 million. Also, the Selectboard is actively

407 researching sources of matching funds, such as state clean water grant funds, to further reduce
408 the cost of the project.

409
410 **Article 10 Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Middlebury in an**
411 **amount not to exceed Eight Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$850,000), subject to**
412 **reduction from available alternate sources of funding, be issued for the purpose of**
413 **rehabilitating the former wastewater treatment facility, including the Control Building for**
414 **Police Department storage, the sand filter building for cruiser parking, a small hazardous**
415 **material storage building, and energy upgrades to the PD building; all on Lucius Shaw**
416 **Lane?**

417
418 Steve Gross asked if solar panels are being considered for the police station. Selectboard
419 member Lindsey Fuentes-George noted that although solar panels are not currently part of the
420 project, town officials have spoken to the engineers and plans to add solar panels may be
421 considered in the future.

422
423 Dave Silverman contended that this is the second year voters have been asked to approve the
424 use of the surplus to fund infrastructure projects, adding that the police department is receiving
425 a significant portion of the budget. Mr. Silverman suggested that the PD storage project be part
426 of the PD budget since the Town's infrastructure needs are significant.

427
428 Selectboard member Heather Seeley pointed out the need to complete decommissioning the
429 former wastewater facility. Leveling the site was considered; however, because the buildings
430 still have value, and the police department needs storage, it was decided that the most cost-
431 efficient course would be to repurpose the facility. Heather added that the buildings are
432 considered part of the Town's infrastructure that need to be maintained. Selectboard Chair Brian
433 Carpenter also pointed out the difference in cost for repurposing at \$130/square foot versus
434 \$300/square foot to build new.

435
436 Chief Thomas Hanley noted that the project is not new. When the police building was designed
437 in 2003, the size and scope was scaled back with the intent of re-using on-site buildings, such
438 as the control and sand filter buildings and another structure for temporary storage of hazardous
439 materials. In the meantime, those buildings have deteriorated due to lack of maintenance and
440 funding

441
442 **Article 11 Shall the Town of Middlebury appropriate \$5,000 to the Turning Point Center of**
443 **Addison County for the purpose of supporting its mission to assist persons, their**
444 **families, and their friends in recovery from substance use disorder and addictive**
445 **behaviors?**

446
447 Turning Point Executive Director Stacy Jones urged voters to support a \$5,000 appropriation to
448 the non-profit which is part of the Vermont Recovery Network (VRN), a system of 9 member and
449 3 affiliate peer recover centers that focus on support for individuals and their families seeking
450 recovery from substance use disorder and other addictions.

451
452 Noting that Turning Point continues to provide a valuable service to the Town, Mary Chapman
453 encouraged voters to support the Turning Point Center of Addison County.

454
455 **Article 12 Shall the town appropriate \$5,000 to Champlain Valley Office of Economic**
456 **Opportunity (CVOEO) to support its efforts in providing housing, fuel & food assistance**
457 **to town residents in need of these services in accordance with 24 V. S. A. § 2691?**

Annual Town Meeting
Monday, March 3, 2020

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Representing Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO), Jeanette Gyukeri asked voters to support CVOEO's efforts to work with people to achieve economic independence, and to address fundamental issues of economic, social, and racial justice.

Article 13 To elect officers as required by the Middlebury Town Charter.

The following candidates asked voters for their support:

- Victoria Jette - Addison Central School District School Board (Middlebury)
- Dan Brown - Town of Middlebury Selectboard
- Mary Gill - Addison Central School District School Board (Middlebury)
- Kristin Gardner - Addison Central School District School Board (Middlebury)
- Jennifer Nucedar - Addison Central School District School Board (Salisbury)
- Brian Carpenter - Town of Middlebury Selectboard
- Ann Webster - Middlebury Town Clerk
- Susan Shashok - Middlebury Town Moderator

Selectboard member Laura Asermily encouraged all to participate in the Town Meeting poll, and that voting by Australian ballot on Articles 8 through 13 on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 from 7:00 a.m. through 7:00 p.m. at the Recreation Center, 154 Creek Road in Middlebury.

Jason Duquette-Hoffman moved to adjourn; Adam Franco seconded.

MOTION PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

The 2020 Annual Town Meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Minutes submitted by,
Peggy Connor