

**Town of Ira**  
**Select Board Informational Meeting Minutes**  
**Date: March 1, 2021**

Due to COVID-19 and changes to the open meeting law under Act 92, the public can attend this Public Informational meeting by: GOOGLE MEET: [meet.google.com/fze-zvbf-ggv](https://meet.google.com/fze-zvbf-ggv)

Or join by phone: 1 442-278-1491 PIN: 701 156 362#

**There is no physical location for this meeting.**

Present: Jeff Barden, Bob Toppin, Nathan Hewitt, Mary Mitiguy

Recording: Nathan Hewitt

TOPIC	DISCUSSION
Call meeting to order	Bob called meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Bob gave a welcome statement.
Review and accept agenda	Jeff made a motion to approve the agenda. Nathan 2 <sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.
Introduction of Mary Mitiguy, meeting facilitator	Nathan made a motion to appoint Mary M as meeting facilitator. Jeff 2 <sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.
a. Meeting Guidance/Rules	Mary reviewed the expectation of this informational only meeting and provided guidance on how to ask questions during the meeting.
<u>School Items</u>	
Article 1: To elect school officers as required by law	Mary read the article and reminded the meeting participants to come out to vote tomorrow.
Review and Discuss Article 2: School Budget: Shall the voters of the Ira School District approve the school board to expend \$673,941 which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? (By Australian Ballot) It is estimated that this proposed budget if approved, will result in education spending of \$15,840 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 2.7 % more than spending for the current year.	Mary read the article and invited comment from the school board and district office. Lance Jones, chair of the Ira School Board and Louis Milazzo, GRCSU Business Manager each gave a brief talk about the school budget. Questions or comments were opened to the public. Jerry Zieller, Bob Toppin and Jeff Barden each asked several questions about the budget numbers. Louis responded to each question.
<u>Town Items</u>	
Article 1: To elect town officers as required by law	Mary read the article and reminded the meeting participants to come out to vote tomorrow.
Review and Discuss Article 2: Shall the voters authorize payment of real and personal property taxes to the Town Treasurer on or before October 19, 2021?	Mary read the article and asked for questions or comments. No comments.
Review and Discuss Article 3: Shall the voters authorize the total expenditure of \$314,843 for the Town General Fund and Highway Fund for the fiscal year	Mary read the article and invited comment from the select board. Bob gave an overview of the budget. Questions and comments were opened to the public. Mark FitzGerald and Jerry Zieller asked several questions about the road budget. Bob responded to their questions.

Approved 3/16/2021

<p>7/1/21 – 6/30/22, for which \$245,193 shall be raised by taxes and \$69,650 by non-property tax revenue?</p> <p>Review and Discuss Article 4: Shall the voters appropriate \$10,840 to be raised by taxes for the Rutland County Sheriff's Department, in addition to \$12,000 included in the General Fund expenditures in Article 4 above for a total of \$22,840?</p> <p>Review and Discuss Article 5: Shall the voters appropriate \$51,500 to the Ira Volunteer Fire Department to provide services to the residents of Ira?</p> <p>Review and Discuss Article 6: Shall the voter appropriate \$15,000 to the Ira Volunteer Fire Department to go into the reserve fund for the purpose of replacing a fire truck?</p> <p>Review and Discuss Article 7: Shall the voters appropriate \$2,947.56 to the Rutland Free Library to provide services to the residents of Ira?</p> <p>Review and Discuss Article 8: Shall the voters appropriate \$973 to the VNA &amp; Hospice of the Southwest Region to provide home care and hospice services to the residents of Ira?</p> <p>Review and Discuss Article 9: Shall the voters appropriate \$300 to the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging to provide elder services to the residents of Ira?</p> <p>Review and Discuss Article 10: Shall the voters appropriate \$375 to the RSVP &amp; Volunteer Center to provide services to the residents of Ira?</p> <p>Review and Discuss Article 11: Shall the voters appropriate \$250 to support the Bird's Eye View?</p> <p>Discussion of other non-binding business (if applicable)</p> <p>Adjourn</p>	<p>Mary read the article and asked for questions or comments. Bob gave a brief review of our arrangement with the sheriff. No other comments.</p> <p>Mary read the article and asked for comment from the Fire Department. Nick Cupoli represented the fire department and talked about their budget. Questions and comments were opened to the public. Mark FitzGerald asked about the EMS Budget. Nick responded to questions</p> <p>Mary read the article and asked questions or comments. Bob asked for information on the fire trucks. Nick Cupoli talked about the aging truck and it not being up to current safety standards.</p> <p>Mary read the article and asked for questions or comments. Allyn Kahle, Ira Library Representative, talked about what is going on. Bob asked about the move to the CSJ Library. Allyn responded to questions.</p> <p>Mary read the article and asked for questions or comments. No comments.</p> <p>Mary read the article and asked for questions or comments. No comments.</p> <p>Mary read the article and asked for questions or comments. No comments.</p> <p>Mary read the article and asked for questions or comments. Mark FitzGerald, Madeline Kerstetter and Allyn Kahle expressed their thanks for the Birds Eye View.</p> <p>Mary read and asked for comments. Mark FitzGerald thanked everyone who works or volunteers for the town.</p> <p>Bob thanked everyone for participating in the meeting. Nathan made a motion to adjourn at 7:57 pm. Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup> passed unanimously.</p>
<p>In my capacity as a member of the Ira Select Board, I certify that the above is a true and accurate copy of the approval minutes of the board meeting held on March 1, 2021</p>	