

CALLED TO ORDER AT: 11:11 a.m.

MINUTES

Annual Meeting of the Lincoln School District

Saturday, February 28, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

Burnham Hall, 52 East River Rd., Lincoln, VT

WELCOME: Moderator, Sally Ober, called the meeting to order, and explained that she was appointed to fill a vacancy when our elected School Moderator resigned. She thanked Paul Forlenza for his years of service as our Town and School Moderator. Sally is currently the elected School District Clerk and is still responsible for writing the minutes for this meeting. The meeting is being recorded on a voice recorder, and Sandy Lee will be taking notes to assist with that process.

Sally asked, how many people are here because the change in day and time made it possible for you to attend? A good number of people raised their hands and it was too many to count quickly, perhaps 30-50?

The Moderator asked if there are no objections, our meeting rules will be the same as agreed upon for the Town Meeting, including disallowing amendments to amendments. One exception is that we will use clickers only in situations where we would otherwise use a paper ballot. That is how the use of clickers article was voted at the school district meeting on Nov. 4, 2025. There were no objections, so we began the meeting.

School Board Members Present: Jeanne Albert, Peg Sutlive, Rob Backlund, Deirdre Kelly, and Mary Gemignani.

Article 1: To elect a Clerk, who shall assume the office immediately and serve a one-year term or until the election and qualification of a successor.

NOMINATIONS: *Sally Taylor nominated Sally Ober. At this time, Sally Ober recused herself from running the meeting, and asked School Board Chair, Jeanne Albert, to serve as a temporary moderator for electing the school district clerk and treasurer.*

There were no more nominations. Sally Ober was elected to be the Lincoln School District Clerk by voice vote.

Article 2: To elect a Treasurer, who shall assume the office immediately and serve a one-year term or until the election and qualification of a successor.

Tory Riley nominated Sally Ober. There were no other nominations. Sally Ober was elected to be the Lincoln School District Treasurer by voice vote.

Article 3: Shall the voters of the Lincoln School District accept the report of the School District Board of Directors?

MOTION: *Barbara Rainville*

SECOND: *Nancy Stevens*

DISCUSSION: *None*

Passed by voice vote.

Article 4: Shall the voters of the Lincoln School District approve the following annual stipends for district officers?

- **Moderator: \$50**
- **Clerk: \$500**
- **Treasurer: \$500**
- **School District Board chair: \$750**
- **Each School District Board member (other than chair): \$500**

MOTION: *Christie Sumner*

SECOND: *Ilana Brett*

DISCUSSION: *None*

Passed by voice vote

Article 5: Shall the voters of the Lincoln School District authorize the School District Board of Directors to borrow money by the issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenues for fiscal year 2026, per 16 V.S.A. §562(9)?

MOTION: *Mark Mulqueen*

SECOND: *Dawn Martin*

DISCUSSION: *There was a typo in the date. Sally Ober made a motion to amend Article 5 by changing the fiscal year from 2026 to 2027. Seconded by Christie Sumner. Discussion: None. The amendment passed by voice vote.*

Back to the main motion as amended, it now reads: **Shall the voters of the Lincoln School District authorize the School District Board of Directors to borrow money by the issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenues for fiscal year 2027, per 16 V.S.A. §562(9)? Passed by voice vote.**

Article 6: (School Budget): Shall the voters of the Lincoln School District approve the School District Board of Directors to expend \$5,407,140.12, which is the amount the Board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year (FY2027)? The Lincoln School District estimates that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in per pupil education spending of \$13,709.58, which is 1.89% higher than per pupil education spending for the current year.

MOTION: *Jeanne Albert*

SECOND: *Deborah Lubar*

DISCUSSION:

Passed by clicker vote. YES: 137 NO: 17

Hearing no objection, our State Representative, Herb Olson, spoke about things being worked on in Montpelier this year. Highlights are education and housing.

Article 7: Shall the Lincoln School District adopt its budget by Australian ballot, beginning with the FY2028 budget?

MOTION: *Roger Rood*

SECOND: *Lori Atkins*

DISCUSSION: *There was much discussion about this article.*

Barbara Rainville made a motion to postpone this article indefinitely. Seconded by Mary Beth Childs.

The motion to postpone indefinitely Passed by clicker vote.

YES: 139 NO: 4

Article 8: To elect Lincoln School District Officers and Directors as follows, for the indicated term, by Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 3, 2026:

1 - School Meeting Moderator (1year)

1 - School Director (3 years)

1 - School Director (2 years)

Reminder: This voting will happen here at Burnham Hall, and the polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

No action needed. None taken.

Article 9: To transact any other legal business coming before said meeting.

MOTION: *Jeanne Albert*

SECOND: *Mark Mulqueen*

DISCUSSION: *Jeanne Albert thanked Rob Backlund for his service, this is his last day on the School Board.*

No new business raised.

TIME ADJOURNED: 1:10 p.m.