

**Town of Lincoln
DRAFT MINUTES
March 27, 2025 Special Town Meeting**

***Called to order at: 5:00 p.m., by Moderator, Paul Forlenza.
Recorded on Zoom.***

The legal voters of the Town of Lincoln are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Town Office at 62 Quaker St in Lincoln on Thursday, March 27, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. to discuss and transact business not warned in time for the March 3, 2025, Town Meeting.

Article 1 Shall the Town of Lincoln vote to exempt the Lincoln Volunteer Fire Company from municipal and state property taxes, per 32 V.S.A. 5404a(a)(4)?

Motion: Bill Finger, ***Second:*** Mary Gemignani

Discussion: Questions: How many other organizations are tax exempt? Ans: Lincoln Sports, Lincoln Library, Burnham Hall, etc. What are state property taxes? Ans: Education taxes.

Article 1 passed by voice vote.

Article 2 Shall the Town of Lincoln vote to exempt the Lincoln Cooperative Preschool from paying municipal taxes for a period of 5 years and to pay the state education tax due as a voted exemption, per 32 V.S.A. 5404a(d)?

Motion: George Dunne, ***Second:*** Mary Gemignani

Discussion: Questions: Does the town pay the taxes for the preschool? Ans: Yes, the voted exemptions show up on your tax bill. Why are we doing this and how long have we been doing it? Ans: A long time. It's something we vote on every 5 years, but we missed putting it on the agenda for the March 3, 2025 Annual Town Meeting. Do Lincoln families get discounts? Ans: No discounts, but Lincoln families get priority for filling openings at the Preschool. Families can get some state assistance for tuition. Currently there are 29 students and 20 are from Lincoln.

Article 2 passed by division of the house: 10 YES, 4 NO.

Article 3 To transact any other legal and proper business when met.

Discussion: Questions: Is this a continuation of our annual meeting on March 3, 2025, or is this an entirely new meeting? Ans: It is a new meeting. Can someone clarify the status of the vote to table the article about voting on our budgets by Australian ballot? Bill Finger said that he attended a Selectboard meeting on March 18 and proposed forming a committee to work on this issue. About 22 people are interested in participating. The first committee meeting will be in the Town Office on March 31 at 6:30 p.m. A notice was also posted on Front Porch Forum, inviting people to attend. How

*to get a question off the table, is that the board puts it back on the agenda for an upcoming meeting, or the voters can petition to put it back on the agenda. Bill Finger made a **motion to adjourn**, George Dunne **seconded**.*

Time adjourned: 5:20 p.m.