

2026 TOWN ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

2026 Annual Town Meeting was held at the Coventry Community Center on March 3, 2026 at 10 a.m. to act on the following articles of business:

Note: The Town of Coventry has a checklist of 804 registered voters. The highest number of votes cast during any Town Meeting floor vote election was registered at 72. This represents a 8.9% participation in Town Meeting. There were five (5) guests in attendance at the meeting:

(Jason Lees, Nathan Standish, Joshua Larocque, Ed Fournier, David Barlow).

Please refer to the Town Meeting recording for more in-depth discussions on the articles.

The Annual Meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m.

Town meeting rules and guidelines were read by Deb Tanguay. Selectboard member, Dan Webster, commenced the Pledge of Allegiance.

TOWN DISTRICT MEETING:

ARTICLE 1: To elect a Town Moderator for the ensuing year.

- **Matthew Maxwell - Elected**

ARTICLE 2: Shall the voters of the Town of Coventry increase the total membership of the Selectboard from three to five members with the two additional members each serving a term of two years pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2650(b)?

- **Article FAILED as written. (No – 37 / Yes – 35)**

ARTICLE 3: To Elect the following officers required by law:

- | | | |
|----|---|---------------|
| a. | Select Person
Matthew Maxwell – Elected (51)
Dan Rondeau – (21) | 3 – Year Term |
| b. | Delinquent Tax Collector
Deb Tanguay – Elected (68)
Kate Fletcher – (3) | 1 – Year Term |
| c. | Cemetery Commission
Alyssa Conn – Elected | 2 – Year Term |
| d. | First Constable
Donald Grondin – Elected | 1 – Year Term |
| e. | Second Constable
Israel Sanville – Elected | 1 – Year Term |
| f. | Planning Commission Member
Amanda Hussey – Elected | 2 – Year Term |

- g. Planning Commission Member
Donald Grondin – Elected 2 – Year Term
- h. Trustee of Cemetery Funds
Praneet Menon – Elected 1 – Year Term

ARTICLE 4: Shall the legal voters of the Town of Coventry vote to appropriate the sum of \$951,821 for support of the fiscal year 2027 Town Liabilities & General Fund expenses and transfer of which all shall be raised by non-tax revenues received through the Landfill Host Agreement?

Article PASSED as written.

ARTICLE 5: Shall the legal voters of the Town of Coventry vote to appropriate the sum of \$485,106 plus the Vermont State Aid funding, for support of the fiscal year 2027 Town Highway Fund expenses for summer and winter road maintenance, of which all shall be raised by non-tax revenues received through the Landfill Host Agreement?

Article PASSED as written.

ARTICLE 6: Shall the legal voters of the Town of Coventry appropriate the sum of \$298,324 for Summer 2026 Paving Projects to be paid with FY2027 funds?

Article PASSED as written.

ARTICLE 7: Shall general obligation notes of the Town of Coventry in the amount of \$2,500,000 to be financed over a term not to exceed five years, subject to available grants-in-aid, be issued under Subchapter 1 of Chapter 53 of Title 24, Vermont Statutes Annotated, for the construction of a new Town Garage?

Article PASSED as written.

ARTICLE 8: Shall the legal voters of the Town of Coventry authorize the transfer of \$230,000 from the Community and Economic Development Reserve Fund to the Buildings and Maintenance Reserve Fund?

Article PASSED as written.

ARTICLE 9: Shall the legal voters of the Town of Coventry authorize the transfer of \$143,000 from the Reappraisal Reserve Fund to the Buildings and Maintenance Reserve Fund?

Article PASSED as written.

ARTICLE 10: Shall the legal voters of the Town of Coventry establish a reserve fund to be called the "Long-Term Tax Stabilization Fund" in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2804, to be funded by the transfer of the current balance of the Town's Long- Term Investment Fund, any future appropriations made by the voters, and all net investment earnings accrued by the fund, for the purpose of reducing municipal property taxes once the landfill is no longer providing sufficient revenues for Town operations?

Article PASSED as written.

ARTICLE 11: Shall the legal voters of the Town of Coventry vote to appropriate the below expenditures for the Service Agencies in the amount of \$27,802? (Service Agencies reports are printed in this Town Report under the Service Agencies section.) To be paid with FY2027 funds.

- \$500 to American Red Cross
- \$6,000 to Goodrich Memorial Library *
- \$1,200 to Green Mountain Farm-to-School
- \$100 to Green Up Vermont
- \$5,000 to Jones Memorial Library *
- \$500 to Northeast Kingdom Learning Services **
- \$2,172 to Northeast Kingdom Human Services
- \$330 to Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging
- \$1,045 to Northeastern Vermont Development Association
- \$550 to Old Stone House Museum and Historic Village
- \$500 to Orleans County Child Advocacy Center
- \$3,000 to Orleans/Essex VNA & Hospice
- \$500 to Orleans County Fair Association
- \$750 to Pope Memorial Frontier Animal Shelter
- \$500 to Prevent Child Abuse
- \$850 to Rural Community Transport
- \$1,125 to Umbrella
- \$130 to Vermont Center for Independent Living
- \$250 to Vermont Family Network
- \$200 to Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force
- \$100 to Vermont Symphony Orchestra, Symphony Kids
- \$2500 to Wednesdays on the Waterfront

Article PASSED as written.

** Requested amount increase from prior year*

***Requested amount decrease from prior year*

ARTICLE 12: To conduct all other business that legally comes before the Town.

ARTICLE 13: To Adjourn Town Meeting.
Meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Deb Tanguay, Coventry Clerk

Matthew Maxwell, Moderator

Selectboard Chair