

middle TOWN NEWS letter

TOWN MEETING 2021 – How to take part

Town Meeting VOTING Day is Tuesday, March 2. The polls are open 7 am – 7 pm at the Historical Society dining room, where Covid-19 protocols will be in place.

The [Town Report for FY '19-20](#) is on the town website, and was mailed to property owners. There are a few extra copies at the town office.

The [Town Warning](#) is in the Town Report and on the town website, and posted at the library, Grant's, and the post office.

Virtual Town Meeting – Info Meeting

A Note from the Moderator

Kimberly Bushnell

It is almost here: Town Meeting 2021. Here are a few things which are helpful to know.

The **TOWN INFORMATIONAL MEETING will be held on Zoom, Monday, March 1 at 6:30pm.**

The link is on the Warning which can be found in the town report and on the town website's left sidebar (<http://middletownsprings.vt.gov>). The meeting can be accessed by computer, smartphone, tablet, or by calling in on the telephone. **Additional instructions are on page 2 of this newsletter.**

Please sign into Zoom early. The "doors will open" beginning at 6pm to avoid a jam-up at meeting time. Once you're in and situated, you can make tea or finish supper, and will be ready when the meeting begins promptly at 6:30pm.

To help facilitate the meeting, please consider sending your questions on the specific articles to the Moderator (mtsmoderator@gmail.com) in advance of the meeting. There will be opportunity to ask questions during the meeting as well.

This is our first virtual town informational meeting. Regardless of your comfort level on Zoom, this will be a new experience for ALL of us. We expect that it will go well AND that there may be some hiccups. It will be good to be together, even if virtually, to talk over the matters before the town this Town Meeting. Bring your questions and your patience.

See you Monday, March 1.

[Wells Springs Unified Union School District Warning](#) has been posted to the Middletown Springs website.

Annual District Informational Meeting

Was Wednesday, February 24, 2021

Voting by Australian ballot

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

Registered voters will vote in their respective towns.

The polls will be open as follows:

Town of Middletown Springs

7 am – 7 pm at Historical Society Building

Town of Wells

10 am – 7 pm at Wells Town Hall

REGISTER TO VOTE

To register to vote in Vermont for the first time, go to <https://olvr.vermont.gov/>. Register online by Friday, February 26 to make sure your name appears on the town's voter checklist. Online registration is preferred. To register in person, make an appointment to go into the Town Office, or stop at the library during open hours.

You must be a registered voter of Middletown Springs to vote at Town Meeting. To double check that you are, go to [My Voter Page](#). There is no deadline to register to vote! You may register to vote up to and including the day of the election.

If you cannot access My Voter Page, you can check your registration status at the town office or by emailing Heather Grier (hgselectboard@gmail.com) or Patty Kenyon (pnhkenyon@vermontel.net).

Candidates on the Ballot

Town

Contested Races

Town Clerk – 3 years

Laura Castle
Patty Kenyon

Town Treasurer – 3 years

Ryan DeCelle
Jenny Talke Muniyak

Selectboard – 3 years

Robin Chesnut-Tangerman
Carl P. Haynes

Uncontested Races

Moderator – 1 year Kimberly Bushnell
Selectboard – 2 years Terry Redfield
Tax Collector – 3 years Debra A. House
Road Commissioner – 3 years William (Bill) Reed
Lister – 3 years Sally Achey
Auditor – 3 years Sarah Grimm
Library Trustee – 3 years Kelley Beckwith
Trustee of Copeland Church Fund Rita Hansen

No Candidate

Town Agent
First Constable
Grand Juror
Trustee of Copeland Cemetery
Trustee of Louis Fund and Other Public Monies
Planning Commission – 3 seats

School

Contested Races

School Director At-Large – 3 years
Meredith Morgan (Middletown)
Sue Burke (Wells)

Uncontested Races

Moderator – 1 year Eric Montbriand
Treasurer – 1 year Tammy Holcomb
Clerk – 1 year Nora Sargent
School Director living in Middletown Springs
Ryan Decelle
School Director living in Wells
Eric Montbriand

Tips for a Positive Zoom Experience

- To join the meeting you will need to download the Zoom application to your computer or phone (it is free) <https://zoom.us/download>, or go through the App Store or Google Play (search for "Zoom"). It takes some time, so please do this early. **Zoom has recently updated. **If you already have Zoom downloaded, please be sure to update the program before our call.** Updating your program will insure you have access to the latest Zoom features during our call.

- Connecting through an Ethernet cable, or very strong WiFi network signal will ensure the best experience. If your audio is not clear, consider dialing in by phone as well. Phone numbers are shown under the meeting link.

- If this is your first time on zoom, review this pdf on how to participate on Zoom (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1K_XkGz0hX0g_gMr_MGalyKFNULMNge3H3/view) using your computer. If you plan to participate using your smartphone, tablet or other Mobile click here to view a quick video tutorial (<https://youtu.be/TmZVN98TmkA>)

- Please use your first & last name, so we can easily identify you. If you don't know how, someone will help you before the meeting starts.

- You can use the Chat Box to ask questions and provide feedback anytime during the meeting. Someone will be monitoring it at all times.

- When you arrive, your video camera will be turned off and your microphone muted. If you would like to speak, you will be recognized by the moderator and asked to unmute your microphone.

- If you lose your connection to the meeting, simply click the link again to re-join the meeting.

JOINING BY TELEPHONE:

- ❖ Dial 1-929-436-2866. (Carrier rates may apply.)
- ❖ You will be prompted to enter the meeting ID - **438 345 0591**, followed by #.
- ❖ You will then be prompted to enter the meeting passcode - **15920** followed by #.
- ❖ You will be able to hear the meeting.
- ❖ To be recognized to speak:
 - Raise your hand (*9)
 - When acknowledged by the moderator, press *6 to unmute.

❖ Trouble Calling in on Monday Evening?

- Debra House has offered help. Call her at 235-2579 for assistance.