**Special Town Meeting Minutes**

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**Town of Alford**

**Special Town Meeting**

**July 25, 2023 6PM**

**The Moderator, Ms. Alexandra Glover, called the meeting to order at 6pm and explained how the meeting would be conducted with all questions addressed to the Moderator by registered voters. The Moderator will determine who will answer the questions posed by the residents. The Moderator introduced Mark Cappadona(Colonial Power Group Representative), Thomas Horrigan(Highway Superintendent) and Adam Costa(Town Counsel). The Moderator swore in the Town Clerk, Peggy Rae Henden-Wilson.**

 **The following is a true copy of the vote taken at the Alford Special Town Meeting held on July 25, 2023 as certified by me. There were 22 registered voters present. I Peggy Rae Henden-Wilson hereby certify that I hold the office of Town Clerk of the Town of Alford in the county of Berkshire.**

**ARTICLE 1.**To see if the Town will vote to initiate the process to aggregate electrical load pursuant to M.G.L. c. 164, § 134 and, further, to adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS,** the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has engaged in a process to establish a competitive market place through the restructuring of the electricity market; and

**WHEREAS,** citizens of Alford have a substantial economic and social interest in terms of greater customer choice and opportunities for savings in this restructured market; and

**WHEREAS,** the Town of Alford hereby finds that it may be in the interest of its citizens who are electric ratepayers, both residential and commercial/industrial, to develop and secure such approvals and enter into appropriate agreements with consultants, experts and attorneys in connection with the establishment and operation of an electricity aggregation plan.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that the Town of Alford hereby:

Publicly declares its intent to become an aggregator of electric power on behalf of its residential and business electric customers and to reestablish such plan if its operation is suspended; and To negotiate and enter into such contracts for power supply pursuant to the plan or services for such plan, with the understanding that if a power supply contract is executed, individual consumers would retain the option not to participate in the aggregation plan and, instead, to choose any electricity alternatives they desire and, further, to take such other action relative hereto as may be appropriate and necessary. **Peter Puciloski made a motion that the Town initiate the process to aggregate electrical load pursuant to M. G. L. C. 164 §35 and publicly declare its intent to become an aggregator of electrical power on behalf of its residential and business electric customers and to reestablish such plan if its operation is suspended, and to negotiate and enter into such contracts for power supply pursuant to the plan or services for such plan, with the understanding that, if a power supply contract is executed, individual customers would retain the option not to participate in the aggregation plan and, instead, to choose any electricity alternatives that they desire. Tim Ortwein seconded the Motion. Several voters asked questions about the contract with regards to opting out, how Solar Panel owners would be affected, how long it would take for the State of Massachusetts to approve of getting the work completed. The Moderator asked Mr. Cappadonna to address the various questions from residents. Once discussion was completed the Moderator called for a vote. The Motion carried unanimously and the Moderator deemed that Article 1 was approved by more than 2/3 vote in accordance with the State Law.**

**ARTICLE 2.** To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds(Stabilization) the sum of One Hundred Forty Thousand dollars ($140,000.00) to purchase a 2024 F-600, or take any other action relative thereto. **Peter Puciloski made a motion that the Town transfer from the Stabilization Fund the sum of $140,000 to purchase 2024 F – 600 motor vehicle. Marion Ortwein seconded the Motion. Several voters asked questions about the cost, length of time to receive the truck after the order is placed. The Moderator asked Thomas Horrigan to speak about the truck’s particulars. Once all questions were satisfactorily answered the Moderator called for a vote. The Motion carried unanimously and the Moderator deemed that Article 2 was approved by more than 2/3 vote in accordance with the State Law.**

**A Motion was made by Tim Ortwein and seconded by Sharon Connolly as so voted to dissolve at 6:35PM.**

***Attest a True Copy,***

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