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WATERFORD, CT
2024 MAY 17 P 3:19
ATTEST: *David L. Campo*
TOWN CLERK

MINUTES

REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING

Annual Budget Meeting & Special Meeting
May 6, 8, 13 and 15, 2024

Moderator Paul Goldstein called the Annual Budget Meeting & Special Meeting of the Representative Town Meeting to order on May 6, 2024, at 7:01 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Kyrar Augmon-Bossa, Michael Bono, Jennifer Bracciale, Mark Campo, Erica Casper, Mary Childs, Thomas J. Dembek, Susan Driscoll, Tim Fioravanti, Nick Gauthier, Paul S. Goldstein, Kristin Gonzalez, Ryan Healy, Christina Jessuck, Matthew Keatley, Lindsay Khan, Kate MacKenzie, Shawn Monahan, Ursula Moreshead, Kayla Mullen, Kathleen Mullen Kohl, Ted Olynciw, Danielle Steward-Gelinas, David Sugrue

ABSENT: Harry Colonis, Tim Condon

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Robert J. Brule, Board of Education Chair Pat Fedor, Board of Finance Chair Glenn Patterson, Selectman Richard Muckle.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT: Selectman Greg Attanasio.

ALSO PRESENT: Town Attorney Robert Avena, Town Clerk David L. Campo, and Director of Finance Kim Allen.

AGENDA ITEM C – April 8, 2024 Minutes

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Driscoll, to accept the April 8, 2024 Minutes as presented.

MOTION PASSED: 22-0-2 (Gonzalez, Sugrue abstained)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Helen Kwasniewski, 227 Bloomingdale Rd, spoke against the Board of Education Budget, urging members to vote "no".

Laurie Wolfley resident and Board of Education member, 15 Anita Ave, spoke in support of the Board of Education Budget.

Cheryl Larder, 26 Wiemes Ct, spoke in support of spending down some of the \$21,000,000 the town has in surplus.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Driscoll, to move ITEM 3 to the end of the meeting on Wednesday, May 8, 2024.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Unanimous

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

The Annual Budget Meeting is, in fact, an ongoing meeting called to order on May 6, 2024, recessed, then continued on May 8, May 13, and May 15, only to be adjourned after final action on May 15, 2024. Consideration of the Budget by department/agency follows the posted schedule.

CALL ITEM 1 – Board of Education and General Fund Budget

Consideration and action upon the General Fund Budget, which includes both Board of Education and General Government Budgets for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, as recommended by the Board of Finance, and as may be modified by the determination of the Representative Town Meeting.

STANDING MOTION by Majority Leader Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Minority Leader Driscoll, to offer a standing motion to move each proposed budget for consideration in the order specified in the hearing schedules, with approvals at the series subtotal and the department total levels, with the understanding that all totals are considered tentatively approved until final action is taken at the end of our Budget hearing.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Unanimous

TAX COLLECTOR (10106) \$232,331

PRESENTATION: Tax Collector Alan Wilensky

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

BOARD OF EDUCATION (10160) \$57,611,181

PRESENTATION: Chairman of the Board of Education Pat Fedor, Superintendent of Schools Thomas Giard, BOE Director of Finance Joseph Mancini presented the details of the budget and stood for questions.

Lengthy discussion ensued

VOTING IN FAVOR: Augmon-Bossa, Bracciale, Casper, Dembek, Driscoll, Gauthier, Goldstein, Healy, Jessuck, Khan, Moresehead, Mullen, Mullen Kohl, Olynciw, Steward-Gelinas, Sugrue

VOTING AGAINST: Campo, Keatley, MacKenzie, Monahan

ABSTAINED: Bono, Childs, Fioravanti, Gonzalez

MOTION PASSED: 16-4-4

Recess at 8:44 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The Annual Budget Meeting of the Representative Town Meeting was resumed and called to order at 7:00 P.M. on Wednesday, May 8, 2024 by Moderator Goldstein.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Kyrah Augmon-Bossa, Jennifer Bracciale, Mark Campo, Mary Childs, Thomas J. Dembek, Susan Driscoll, Tim Fioravanti, Nick Gauthier, Paul S. Goldstein, Kristin Gonzalez, Ryan Healy, Christina Jessuck,

Matthew Keatley, Lindsay Khan, Kate MacKenzie, Shawn Monahan, Ursula Moreshead, Kayla Mullen, Kathleen Mullen Kohl, Danielle Steward-Gelinas, David Sugrue

ABSENT: Michael Bono, Erica Casper, Harry Colonis, Tim Condon, Ted Olynciw

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Robert J. Brule, Board of Finance Chair Glenn Patterson

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT: Board of Education Chair Pat Fedor, Selectman Greg Attanasio, and Selectman Richard Muckle

ALSO PRESENT: Town Attorney Nick Kepple, Town Clerk David L. Campo, and Director of Finance Kim Allen

PUBLIC COMMENT

Quaker Hill resident Helen Kwasniewski spoke about her Budget concerns with an emphasis on the Senior Citizens Commission.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ETHICS COMMISSION (10143) \$900

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

CONSERVATION OF HEALTH (10132) \$148,407

PRESENTATION: Danielle Steward-Gelinas, Chairperson of Ledge Light Board of Directors

MOTION PASSED: 19-0-2 (Goldstein, Steward-Gelinas abstained)

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING SERV (10133) \$26,297

PRESENTATION: VNA of Southeastern Connecticut Senior Manager of Clinical Services Karen Ort

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

SOCIAL SERVICES GRANTS/MISC (10120) \$100,250

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (10122) \$1,196,762

PRESENTATION: Director of Emergency Management Stephen Sinagra

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous.

YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES BUREAU (10119) \$294,579

PRESENTATION: Director of Human Services Dani Gorman, Program Coordinator Joe Trelli, Human Services Coordinator Heidi McSwain, Brandon Smith

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

SENIOR CITIZENS COMMISSION (10135) \$481,248

PRESENTATION: Director of Human Services Dani Gorman, Assistant Director Terry Wheeler, Office Assistant Meaghan Rossi

MOTION PASSED: 19-0-2 (Bracciale, Gauthier abstained)

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS (10105) \$1,742

PRESENTATION: Assessor Paige Walton

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

ASSESSOR (10104) \$287,213
PRESENTATION: Assessor Paige Walton
MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

CONTINGENCY (10121) \$265,000
PRESENTATION: Director of Finance Kim Allen
MOTION PASSED: 20-1-0 (Childs opposed)

DEBT SERVICE (10139) \$8,109,746
PRESENTATION: Director of Finance Kim Allen
MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

INSURANCE (10112) \$4,962,182
PRESENTATION: Director of Finance Kim Allen
MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

TOWN CLERK (10109) \$264,849
PRESENTATION: Town Clerk David L. Campo, CCTC
MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING (10117) \$18,903
PRESENTATION: Town Clerk David L. Campo, CCTC
MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS (10102) \$96,525
PRESENTATION: Democratic Registrar of Voters Bigi Ebbin, Republican Registrar of Voters Patricia Waters
MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

CALL ITEM 3 – Salary of Registrars of Voters
PRESENTATION: Democratic Registrar of Voters Bigi Ebbin, Republican Registrar of Voters Patricia Waters
MOTION by Mullen Kohl, seconded by Sugrue, to approve a recommendation, if any, of the Finance, Wage & Personnel Standing Committee of the RTM, pending its meeting on May 1, 2024, as to the compensation for the Registrars of Voters due to the implementation of Early Voting.
MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Gauthier, to amend the motion by replacing “if any” with “an increase to the base stipend for the ROV for FY24 to \$33,812.16 retroactive to Jan 1, 2024”.
MOTION TO AMEND PASSED: Unanimous
MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

Recess at 8:31 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER
The Annual Budget Meeting of the Representative Town Meeting resumed at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, May 13, 2024, with the call to order by Moderator Goldstein.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Kyrach Augmon-Bossa, Jennifer Bracciale, Mark Campo, Erica Casper, Mary Childs, Thomas J. Dembek, Susan Driscoll, Tim Fioravanti, Nick Gauthier, Paul S. Goldstein, Kristin Gonzalez (7:24 P.M.), Lindsay Khan, Kate MacKenzie, Shawn Monahan, Ursula Moreshead, Kayla Mullen, Kathleen Mullen Kohl Danielle Steward-Gelinas, David Sugrue

ABSENT: Michael Bono, Harry Colonis, Tim Condon, Ryan Healy, Christina Jessuck, Matthew Keatley, Ted Olynciw

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Robert J. Brule, Selectman Richard Muckle

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT: Board of Education Chair Pat Fedor, Board of Finance Chair Glenn Patterson, Selectman Richard Muckle, and Selectman Greg Attanasio.

ALSO PRESENT: Town Attorney Robert Avena, Town Clerk David L. Campo, and Director of Finance Kim Allen.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CORRESPONDENCE

Marketing information from CCM.

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Gauthier, to move Public Works ahead of Recreation and Parks.

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS (10115) \$4,310

PRESENTATION: Director of Planning Jonathan Mullen

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (10113) \$25,267

PRESENTATION: Director of Planning Jonathan Mullen

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

CONSERVATION COMMISSION (10114) \$18,250

PRESENTATION: Director of Planning Jonathan Mullen, Environmental Planner Maureen Fitzgerald

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION (10110) \$686,543

PRESENTATION: Director of Planning Jonathan Mullen

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

FLOOD & EROSION CONTROL BOARD (10141) \$1,109

PRESENTATION: Director of Planning Jonathan Mullen

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

BUILDING DEPARTMENT (10118) \$326,532

PRESENTATION: Director of Planning Jonathan Mullen, Building Official Steve Cardelle

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

BUILDING MAINTENANCE (10111) \$895,824

PRESENTATION: Director of Public Works Gary Schneider, Office Coordinator Sandy Kenniston

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (10130) \$5,086,238

PRESENTATION: Director of Public Works Gary Schneider, Office Coordinator Sandy Kenniston

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION (10137) \$1,485,080

PRESENTATION: Director of Recreation and Parks Ryan McNamara, Program Coordinator Tim Ceiplik

MOTION PASSED: 18-0-1 (Childs abstained)

BOARD OF SELECTMEN (10101) \$206,405

PRESENTATION: First Selectman Robert Brule

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

Recess at 8:42 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The Annual Budget Meeting of the Representative Town Meeting resumed at 7:01 P.M. on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, with the call to order by Paul Goldstein.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Kyrah Augmon-Bossa, Jennifer Bracciale, Mark Campo, Erica Casper, Mary Childs, Tim Condon, Thomas J. Dembek, Susan Driscoll, Tim Fioravanti (8:17 P.M.), Nick Gauthier, Paul S. Goldstein, Kristin Gonzalez, Ryan Healy, Christina Jessuck, Matthew Keatley, Kate MacKenzie, Shawn Monahan (7:10 P.M.), Ursula Moreshead, Kathleen Mullen Kohl, Ted Olynciw, Danielle Steward-Gelinas, David Sugrue

ABSENT: Michael Bono, Harry Colonis, Lindsay Khan, Kayla Mullen

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Robert J. Brule, Selectman Richard Muckle, Board of Education Chair Pat Fedor, Board of Finance Chair Glenn Patterson

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ABSENT: Selectman Greg Attanasio.

ALSO PRESENT: Town Attorney Nicholas Kepple, Town Clerk David L. Campo, and Director of Finance Kim Allen.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Laurie Wolfley, 15 Anita Ave, spoke in support of the Waterford Public Library Budget.

Stephane Browder, 12 Two Mile Hill Rd, spoke in support of the Waterford Public Library Budget.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

RETIREMENT COMMISSION (10116) \$7,760,257

PRESENTATION: Retirement Commission Chair Susan Driscoll

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

RTM Member Monahan arrived.

WATERFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY (10136) \$1,006,837

PRESENTATION: Library Director Christine Johnson, President of The Waterford Public Library Board of Trustees Aaron Rosenberg

MOTION PASSED: 19-2-0 (Gauthier and Moreshead opposed)

FINANCE DEPARTMENT (10107) \$767,856

PRESENTATION: Director of Finance Kim Allen

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT (10145) \$264,204

PRESENTATION: Director of Human Resources Christine Walters

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

BOARD OF FINANCE (10103) \$80,713

PRESENTATION: Board of Finance Chair Glenn Patterson

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous.

RTM Member Fioravanti arrived.

LEGAL DEPARTMENT (10108) \$295,000

PRESENTATION: Town Attorney Nicholas Kepple

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

FIRE SERVICES (10123) \$3,632,425

PRESENTATION: Director of Fire Services Michael Howley, Office Coordinator Linda Finnegan

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

POLICE COMMISSION (10129) \$7,115,644

PRESENTATION: Chief of Police Marc Balestracci, Lieutenant David Ferland, Lieutenant Nicole VanOverloop, Lieutenant Patrick Flanagan, Administrative Sargent Michael Fedor, Office Coordinator Diane Driscoll

MOTION PASSED: 21-1-0 (Steward-Gelinas opposed)

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (10147) \$1,231,423

PRESENTATION: Information Technology Manager Jeff Robillard

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

CURRENT YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (10138) \$1,312,527

PRESENTATION: First Selectman Robert Brule

MOTION PASSED: 21-1-0 (Gauthier opposed)

TRANSFERS TO CAPITAL AND NON-RECURRING EXPENDITURE (10140) \$938,399

PRESENTATION: First Selectman Robert Brule

MOTION PASSED: 20-2-0 (Childs and Gauthier opposed)

FINAL ACTION

GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS \$39,267,105

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Dembek, to approve the General Government Operations Budget in the amount of \$39,267,105.

MOTION PASSED: 21-1-0 (Gauthier opposed)

CURRENT YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (10138) \$1,312,527

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Keatley, to approve the Current Year Capital Improvements Budget in the amount of \$1,312,527.

MOTION PASSED: 20-2-0 (Childs and Gauthier opposed)

TRANSFERS TO CAPITAL AND NON-RECURRING EXPENDITURE (10140) \$938,399

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Dembek, to approve the Transfers to Capital and Non-Recurring Expenditure Fund Budget in the amount of \$938,399

MOTION PASSED: 20-2-0 (Childs and Gauthier opposed)

DEBT SERVICE (10139) \$8,109,746

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Mullen Kohl, to approve the Debt Service budget in the amount of \$8,109,746

MOTION PASSED: Unanimous.

BOARD OF EDUCATION: (10160) \$57,611,181

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Dembek, to approve the Board of Education Budget in the amount of \$57,611,181

MOTION PASSED: 17-2-3 (Campo, Keatley opposed)(Gonzalez, Fioravanti & Childs Abstained)

TOTAL BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2024 \$107,238,958

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Keatley, to approve a Total Budget for Fiscal Year 2024 in the amount of \$107,238,958

MOTION PASSED: 20-2-0 (Campo and Gauthier opposed)

CALL ITEM 3 – Tax Payment Schedule.

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Moresehead, to establish the schedule of tax payments for real estate, personal property and motor vehicle tax bills for the next fiscal year.

Friendly amendment requested by Driscoll and accepted to refer to the letter from Tax Collector Alan Wilensky and add "as presented" to the motion. (See Attachment)

VOTING IN FAVOR: Unanimous.

MOTION by Steward-Gelinas, seconded by Dembek, to adjourn at 9:48 P.M.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Campo, CCTC

Waterford Town Clerk

FIFTEEN ROPE FERRY ROAD
WATERFORD, CT 06385-2886



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RECEIVED FOR RECORD
WATERFORD, CT
2024 APR 16 A 9:55
ATTEST: David J. Campo
TOWN CLERK

To: Paul Goldstein, RTM Moderator
David Campo, Town Clerk

From: Alan Wilensky, CCMC
Tax Collector

Date: April 25, 2024

Subject: Tax Payment Schedule for Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025
For the RTM meeting agenda of May 15, 2024

I have the following recommendations for the schedule of tax payments for Fiscal Year 2024– 2025:

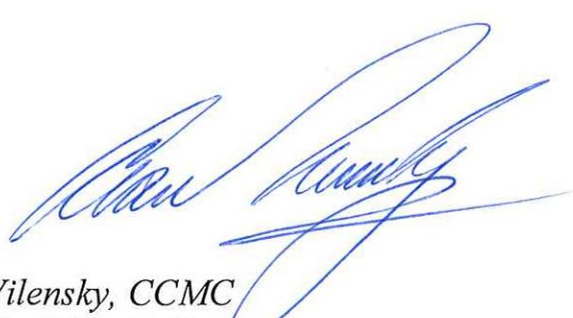
- Retain the two-payment system for Real Estate tax bills, providing for collections in July and January.
- Real Estate tax bills over \$100.00 would be collected in two equal installments, due July 1, 2024, and January 1, 2025.
- Real Estate tax bills of \$100.00 or less would be due in full July 1, 2024.
- Personal Property and Motor Vehicle tax bills would be due in full July 1, 2024.
- Motor Vehicle Supplemental tax bills would be due in full January 1, 2025. These bills are for vehicles registered after the assessment date of October 1, 2023.

This collection schedule is recommended in order to keep the Town in compliance with Connecticut General Statutes 12-142, 12-144, and 12-144a.

Sec. 12-142. Installments; due date. The legislative body of each municipality, upon approving any budget calling for the laying of a tax on property, shall determine whether such tax shall be due and payable in a single installment or in two semiannual installments or in four quarterly installments and shall, unless otherwise provided by law, designate the date or dates on which such installment or installments shall be due and payable, subject to the provisions of section 7-383, in any municipality in compliance with requirements concerning the uniform fiscal year under chapter 110; provided the last installment of any such tax shall be due and payable not later than forty-five days before the end of the fiscal year in which the first installment thereof is due and payable, and provided any special tax shall be due and payable in a single installment. In case of failure of the legislative body to determine when such tax shall be due and payable or whenever the date on which such tax shall be due and payable has been determined, however, (1) the preparation and mailing of rate bills for such tax is delayed until after the date such tax is due or (2) such tax is not applicable to certain property until after the date such tax is due, such tax shall be due and payable, with respect to all property or property which becomes subject to tax after the date such tax is due, whichever is applicable, not later than thirty days following the date on which rate bills for such tax are mailed or handed to persons liable therefor. Except as otherwise provided by law, the several installments of a tax due in two or four installments shall be equal, but any taxpayer may pay two or more of such installments when the first is due.

Sec. 12-144. Payment of taxes of not more than one hundred dollars. Any property tax due in any municipality of this state in an amount not in excess of one hundred dollars shall be due and payable in a single payment when so determined by the appropriating body of such municipality.

Sec. 12-144a. Payment of tax on motor vehicles. Irrespective of the provisions of sections 12-142 and 12-144, the appropriating body of each municipality, upon approving any budget calling for the laying of a tax on property, shall determine whether such tax as it applies to motor vehicles shall be due and payable in a single installment.



Alan Wilensky, CCMC
Waterford Tax Collector