

# WOODSTOCK, CT



## INFORMATION FROM YOUR WOODSTOCK CT REGISTRARS

Early Voting has come to Connecticut!

Starting with the Presidential Preferred Primary, early voting was held for four days: Tuesday March 26, Wednesday March 27, Thursday March 28, and Saturday March 30, from 10 am to 6 pm every day.

**May 13th** is the last day that a citizen enrolled in a specific political party can transfer to another party and still vote in the August primary.

**July 26th** is the last day people can register as an elector by mail and still vote in the August primary.

On **July 30th** there will be an enrollment session offered by Woodstock's registrars. This means that we will be in our office to accept in person registrations for two hours that day. The hours will be shared via various communication channels in the week before.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS- 2024 VOTE DAYS

The 2024 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY will be held on **Tuesday, April 2, 2024** at Woodstock Middle School in the Gymnasium from 6 am to 8 pm.

*The town referendum will be held at the town hall in*

*May (tentative date of May 21st) following the town meeting.*

The primary for state and federal senators and representatives will be at the WMS gymnasium on **Tuesday, August 13th** from 6 am to 8 pm.

## April Meetings

Monday, 1st

Beautification @ 4:30 pm

Wetlands (IWWA) @ 7 pm

Tuesday, 2nd

Presidential Primary at WMS

Thursday, 4th

Board of Selectmen @ 4 pm

Planning & Zoning @ 7:30 pm

Tuesday, 9th

Committee on Aging @ 5 pm

BOF Public Hearing at WMS @ 7 pm

Wednesday, 10th

Crystal Pond Park @ 6 pm

Economic Development @ 6:30 pm

Thursday, 11th

Open Space @ 7 pm

Monday, 15th

Agricultural Commission @ 1 pm

Zoning Board of Appeals @ 6 pm

Tuesday, 16th

Board of Finance @ 7 pm

Wednesday, 17th

Arboretum Committee @ 7 pm

Thursday, 18th

Board of Selectmen @ 6 pm

Planning & Zoning @ 7:30 pm

Monday, 22nd

Conservation Commission @ 7 pm

Tuesday, 23rd

Committee on Aging @ 5 pm

Water Pollution Control @ 7 pm

Wednesday, 24th

Housing Authority @ 1 pm

Historic District @ 6:30 pm

# WOODSTOCK, CT

**TOWN BUDGET 101**

In December/January each year the Board of Education and Board of Selectmen begin their perspective meetings to formulate their budgets for the upcoming fiscal year. Our fiscal year runs from July 1st thru June 30th. This is a long process that is comprised of many public meetings.

**WOODSTOCK BUDGET BASICS**

The total annual budget is split between the General and Education budgets. Approximately 80% of total budget amount goes towards education costs.

Woodstock budget relies on the annual Grand List numbers to determine the mil (tax) rate. The Grand List is comprised of all Real Estate, Personal Property and Motor Vehicle Values.

**PUBLIC DOCUMENTS**

- Annual Budgets, Capital Plans and Financial Statements can be found on the Board of Finance page on town website.
- Town Meeting Minutes are posted on the town website. You can get minutes emailed to you by signing up for email notifications

**YOUR VOTE MATTERS**

Woodstock residents determine the budget every year by casting their vote at Budget Referendums.




**DID YOU KNOW?**

Woodstock residents vote to approve or reject a **Municipal Budget** every year.

The **Municipal** budget is the combination of the EDUCATION budget and the GENERAL GOVERNMENT budgets.

Learn more about the EDUCATION budget at the Board of Education Public Forum.

Learn more about the GENERAL GOVERNMENT budget at the Board of Finance Public Hearing.

**TAKE THE FY 25 BUDGET SURVEY**

Available now on the Town Website!  
<https://www.woodstockct.gov/home/webforms/2024-budget-survey25> budget

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR FY 25 BUDGET**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS...**

Tuesday, April 9, 2024  
**Board of Finance Public Hearing**  
 Woodstock Middle School Cafeteria  
 7:00 pm

Saturday, April 6, 2024  
**Board of Education Public Forum**  
 Woodstock Middle School Cafeteria  
 10:00 am

Tuesday, May 21st (tentative date)  
**Budget Referendum**  
 Woodstock Town Hall  
 Noon to 8 pm

Info ————— 2024  
**WOODSTOCK BUDGET**

## BUDGET SEASON UPDATES

FY 25 Budget Info Link -

<https://www.woodstockct.gov/home/news/update-budget-info-april-9th-fiscal-year-25-budget-public-hearing>

The proposed General Government Budget and proposed Board of Education Budget were presented to the Board of Finance on Tuesday, March 12th. Details about the initial proposed budgets can be found in the BOF Minutes on the Town Website.

Total proposed General Government FY 25 Budget amount is \$6,432,672

Total proposed Education FY 25 Budget amount is \$23,396,128

Expected Revenues were presented and both General Government & Education budgets reviewed at the Board of Finance on Tuesday, March 19th. Details about the estimated revenues can be found in the BOF Minutes on the Town Website.

Current estimated revenues for FY 25 is \$28,546,522. \*This number is subject to change.

The public has the option to voice their opinions on the FY 25 budget at the Board of Finance Public Hearing on April 9th. The Board of Finance will meet to discuss and finalize the FY 25 Budget amount on April 16th.





# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The EDC presented a Certificate of Achievement along with other presentations from the Board of Selectmen, Northeast Chamber of Commerce and Senator Gordon on behalf of the State of Connecticut at the Grand Opening of the Woodstock Valley Country Store. The EDC plans to hold more ribbon cutting ceremonies for local businesses and looks forward to working with the NE Chamber in the future.

The EDC is now allowed to welcome 3 additional members. Welcome to Robert Wolfe, the new EDC Alternate!

Join us on Wednesday, April 10th at 6:30 in Room A for our next meeting.

## RECREATION NEWS

The Recreation Department continues to expand programming for Woodstock residents including Lego, Drama, Volleyball, Golf, Line Dancing, Nature Club, Squirt Soccer, Basketball and NOW youth programs. The Recreation Department is also proud to be moving forward with refurbishing the Town Tennis Courts at WMS for public use and future updating of the bathrooms at the Town Beach!

Planning ahead with summer events....

### Summer Concerts at Roseland Cottage

Souls On Fire- June 21st at 6:30 pm

Flamingo- July 26th at 6:30 pm

Triple Double- August 9th at 6:30 pm

Be sure to attend the 2nd Annual **Town Beach Party** on Saturday, June 29th to kick off summer with games, live music, food trucks & fun!!

## RECREATION EVENTS



Have you registered your team to clean up Woodstock yet? Thanks to Soleil Bakery, any registered team member gets a free pastry & drink! The team that collects the most trash in April gets a great prize!!



## POET LAUREATE COMMITTEE

The newest town committee met for the first time on March 5th. The committee is tasked with selecting a Poet Laureate for Woodstock, CT.

A poet laureate is a poet officially appointed by a government or conferring institution, typically expected to compose poems for special events and occasions. This is a new position for the Town of Woodstock approved by the Board of Selectmen earlier this year.

## COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Committee on Aging has created a Senior Resource brochure and is discussing the best way to distribute it and other information to the public. Finding the best way to distribute information to our senior residents is a challenge yet to be determined. They also are discussing options surrounding AARP services.

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Conservation Commission voted to continue with virtual meetings at this time. The Commission plans to focus on dirt roads in Woodstock, specifically erosion and preservation as the next topic for consideration.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Board of Selectmen met several times in March to address the FY 25 Budget. Reductions were made to proposals in the amount of \$146,032 resulting in a total FY 25 General Budget in the amount of \$6,432,672 a 3.42% increase including debt service.

In addition to the planned bridge work on Peake Brook & County Roads starting this spring, the federal program plans to start the process for Kenyonville Road bridge work.

Attend the Board of Selectmen meetings to keep up with all things happening in our town.

## AROUND TOWN



*The Woodstock Valley Country Store celebrated its Grand Opening with a Ribbon Cutting on March 7, 2024*



*Construction is scheduled to begin soon to install a traffic light at the 169/171 intersection. The iconic Elm Tree will not be impacted*

## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

A reminder that fees have been updated as of April 2024 in the Building Department.

New permit rate of \$13.26 per thousand of estimated cost with minimum fee of \$35.26. Fee rates for new construction are now \$.97 per sq. ft., decks & porches are now \$.34 per sq. ft. and barns, sheds & garages are now \$.28 per sq. ft.

Flat fees for Demo is now \$50, above ground pool is now \$75 and inground pool is now \$150.

## LAND USE DEPARTMENT

The transition from Tyche to Dan Malo, our new in house Zoning Enforcement Officer, has begun. Many forms are being updated in the Land Use Office. Tyche will be working with the Town for the month of April to ensure a smooth transition for Woodstock residents.

The Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency has elected Bill Rewinski to serve as their new Chairman.

The Wetlands Agency and Zoning Board of Appeals have openings for membership. For more information, please reach out to the Land Use Office or 1st Selectman.

## FROM THE TOWN HALL

**April is Fair Housing Month-** The Town of Woodstock has adopted a Resolution Designating the Month of April as "Fair Housing Month"

Fair housing in Connecticut means you may freely choose a place to live without regard to your age, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation or lawful source of income. More information about Fair Housing can be found at- <https://ctfairhousing.org/>

**From the Clerk's Office-** ABSENTEE BALLOTS are available by mail or in person before each primary, election and referendum. Contact the Clerk's office for more information. Also, DOG LICENSE renewal begins June 1st at the Town Clerk's Office.



# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## COMMITTEES INFO

Arboretum Committee - The Board of Selectmen appointed two new members to the Arboretum Committee on March 21st. Welcome and thank you to Sandra & Thomas Swale.

Beautification Committee - The Beautification Committee now needs new members. Anyone interested should contact the Office of the First Selectman.

Open Space Land Acquisition & Preservation Committee - committed to preserving 25% of Woodstock for Open Space

Quasset School Advisory Committee - Quasset School plans to be part of TLGV Walktober Events in 2024... Stay tuned for more info!

## LOOKING AHEAD IN WOODSTOCK CT

**Annual Town Meeting**  
Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 7 pm



The 17th annual Jog for July 5K race will take place on May 4th



The flyover has been approved and scheduled for the 2024 Memorial Day Parade & Events.

## COMMISSIONS INFO

Agricultural Commission - There is continued need for a paid assistant for the American Farmland Trust Grant work.

Green Energy Commission - Is inactive and in need of people to make an active commission again.

Historic District Commission  
Historic Properties Commission  
Accepting new members!

Crystal Pond Park Commission

## AUTHORITIES & APPEALS

Board of Assessment Appeals  
Housing Authority - Scheduled to meet on April 24th.

Water Pollution Control Authority- Sewer System Evaluation by DPC Engineering was presented and discussed at the March 27th meeting.

Zoning Board of Appeals - The ZBA has updated bylaws and the application form. They also created a ZBA welcome packet for new members. There are vacancies on this Board. Please see Dan Malo for information or fill out an application with the office of the 1st Selectman.

## POLITICAL CORNER

Woodstock Democratic Town Committee - There will not be a DTC meeting in the month of April. Congratulations to Charlene Perkins Cutler who was elected the new Chair of the DTC in March. The next DTC meeting will be May 1st at 6:30 pm in Room B of the Town Hall.

Woodstock Republican Town Committee  
The next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 17th at 7 pm. Meeting will take place in Room A at the Town Hall.

## YOUR INPUT MATTERS WITH LOCAL ITEMS GET INVOLVED TODAY..SOMETHING FOR ALL!

Email [woodstockct.edc@gmail.com](mailto:woodstockct.edc@gmail.com) for participation options in Woodstock