**NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**TOWN OF WOODSTOCK**

**May 4, 2021**

Please note the Annual Town Meeting is a hybrid meeting, meaning it will be held via Zoom and in-person. Those eligible to vote will have the option of which to attend. Those who attend in person must wear a mask and social distancing rules will be followed. In order to attend via Zoom, e**lectors and all others eligible to vote in town meetings in the Town of Woodstock must register with their legal name that appears on the Tax list or their voter registration card through the link below.** PLEASE READ ALL OF THE ZOOM DIRECTIONS.

**Register in advance for this meeting as soon as possible:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkce6vpjsuEt3x4Hqo37YwkbD9DyYK0vvN>

**Note: The link above is the registration link only, not the meeting link. After you register you will receive a unique meeting link. This link will only work for that individual person. YOU MUST BE REGISTERED IN ORDER TO RECIEVE A MEETING LINK. REGISTRATION PRIOR TO 6 PM ON MAY 4, 2021 IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE.**

Voting will take place on Zoom via poll. Because of this, only those who are qualified to vote at a town meeting will be admitted into the Zoom meeting. This would mean the attendee would be a registered voter in the Town of Woodstock, OR a property owner in the town of Woodstock whose name is on the tax rolls with property assessed at more than $1,000. If more than one resident in a household is qualified to vote,**they must be logged into the Zoom meeting with separate devices.** Only one poll vote is allowed per device. Devices must have video and audio for voter verification. These hybrid meetings are new to all of us, but we believe it is a positive move to get as much participation as possible in town government. Please be patient as we are all learning how to do this together.

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The Annual Town Meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of Woodstock, Connecticut, will be held on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 7:00 PM in person at the Woodstock Middle School, 147B Route 169 in Woodstock and via Zoom. The Annual Town Meeting will be held to consider the following actions and to vote on the following resolutions:

1) To elect a Moderator;

2) To approve the proposed budget of the Town of Woodstock for the fiscal year ending

June 30, 2022 in the amount of $25,235,696.00 as has been recommended by the Board of

Finance and to appropriate said sum to meet the recommended expenditures;

3) To adopt a Capital Improvement Plan for a five-year period ending 2025-2026 as has

been recommended by the Board of Finance; RESOLVED, that the Town of

Woodstock’s local capital improvement projects of $13,008,281.00 and capital

improvement plan as defined in Section 7-535 through 7-538, a copy of which plan is on

file in the Office of the Town Clerk and available for public inspection during

normal business hours; is hereby ratified and approved;

4) To authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for the State and Federal Grants;

5) To transact such other business as may properly come before said meeting; and

6) To adjourn.

Please Note: Pursuant to Section 7-7 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Woodstock Board of Selectmen have on their own initiative removed the foregoing Item #2 for submission to the voters of the Town of Woodstock by referendum to be held on May 11, 2021 from 12:00 Noon to 8:00 PM at the Woodstock Town Hall, 415 Route 169, Woodstock. Voters approving the questions will vote “Yes” and those opposing the questions will vote “No.” Absentee ballots will be available at the Office of the Town Clerk.

Dated at Woodstock, Connecticut, this 15th day of April 2021.

**Woodstock Board of Selectmen**

/s/ John V. Swan Jr.

John V. Swan Jr., First Selectman

/s/ Chandler Paquette

Chandler Paquette, Selectman

Attest: /s/ Christine G. French

Christine G. French, Assistant Town Clerk

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

May 4, 2021

FY 2022

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **RECEIPTS** |  | **ESTIMATED** |  | **PROPOSED** |
|  |  | 2020-2021 |  | 2021-2022 |
| Cash Available for Appropriation |  | $ 1,159,204 |  | $ 839,809 |
| Prior Taxes, Interest & Leins, MVS |  | $ 470,000 |  | $ 500,000 |
| State Grants: |  |  |  |  |
| Education |  | $ 4,990,532 |  | $ 4,990,532 |
| Other State Money |  | $ 16,194 |  | $ 104,802 |
| Other Income |  | $ 571,600 |  | $ 628,600 |
| Total Cash Balances & Receipts |  | $ 7,207,530 |  | $ 7,063,743 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **EXPENDITURES** |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Ordinary Expenditures: |  |  |  |  |
| General Government |  | $ 1,955,401 |  | $ 2,074,714 |
| Public Safety |  | $ 892,383 |  | $ 923,329 |
| Highways |  | $ 1,524,905 |  | $ 1,532,816 |
| Health, Recreation & Welfare |  | $ 555,209 |  | $ 572,673 |
| Contingency |  | $ 70,000 |  | $ 70,000 |
| Redemption of Debt |  | $ 439,768 |  | $ 300,855 |
| Board of Education Budget |  | $ 19,205,251 |  | $ 19,761,309 |
| Total Expenditures |  | $ 24,642,917 |  | $ 25,235,696 |
| Less Cash Balances & Receipts |  | $ 7,207,530 |  | $ 7,063,743 |
| TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION |  | $ 17,435,387 |  | $ 18,171,953 |
| \*SUBJECT TO CHANGE |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2021-2022 | Proposed Mill Rate | 25.25 |  |
|  | 2020-2021 | Current Mill Rate | 24.5 |  |
|  |  | Proposed Mill Increase | 0.75 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**TOWN OF WOODSTOCK**

**RETURN OF NOTICE**

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT** on April 15, 2021 I left a duplicate of the attached warning and notice of the Special Town Meeting of the Town of Woodstock, Connecticut, with Judy E. Walberg, its’ Town Clerk.

**I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT** I caused a copy of said warning and notice to be published in the Norwich Bulletin, a newspaper having substantial circulation in said Town, on

April 23, 2021.

**I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT** on April 15, 2021, I caused to be set upon the Legal Notice Board, a written copy of said warning and notice signed by the Selectmen.

**I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT** all of the above acts were done at least five days before the holding of said meeting on May 4, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Jay Swan, First Selectman

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT** the foregoing Notice and Return of Notice are duly recorded in the records of the Town of Woodstock, Connecticut.

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Christine G. French, Assistant Town Clerk

Minutes of Annual Town Meeting

Town of Woodstock

May 4, 2021

The Annual Town Meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of Woodstock, Connecticut, was held on Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 7:00 PM in person at the Woodstock Middle School, 147B Route 169 in Woodstock and via Zoom.

Approximately 28 people attended in person and 30 attended via Zoom. The Annual Town Meeting will be held to consider the following actions and to vote on the following resolutions:

Christine French, Assistant Town Clerk called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

1. To elect a Moderator:

Karen Fizpatrick, seconded by the Michael Dougherty made a motion to nominate Dawn Adiletta as moderator. Hearing no further nominations Ms. French called for a vote. **In Favor:** 57. **Opposed:** 1. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion passed.**

2) To approve the proposed budget of the Town of Woodstock for the fiscal year ending

June 30, 2022 in the amount of $25,235,696.00 as has been recommended by the Board of

Finance and to appropriate said sum to meet the recommended expenditures;

Moderator Dawn Adiletta asked if anyone like to ask questions.

David Richardson stated that he had a statement to read. The moderator invited Mr. Richards to come to the podium. Mr..Richardson questioned how the health reserve fund could be considered “other funds” in the Board of Education’s budget. He stated that this account is a town account and falls under Town Regulations. Therefore, he feels that this fund cannot be used to offset the Board of Education’s health insurance budget.

Mr. Richardson stated that he felt that the Board of Educations was circumnavigating the perimeters of Proposition 46 and State Statute 10-222 by putting the Woodstock Academy benefit assessment fee into the 5-Year Capital Plan. This is a recurring expense, therefore should not be on the 5-Year Capital Plan. He wondered what the auditor and the Town Attorney’s opinions about this.

There was no response to Mr. Richardson’s inquiries.

Being no further questions the moderator reminded the members of the audience that this question would be voted on at Referendum, on May 11, 2021 at the Woodstock Town Hall. Voting hours will be 12 noon to 8:00pm.

3) To adopt a Capital Improvement Plan for a five-year period ending 2025-2026 as has

been recommended by the Board of Finance; RESOLVED, that the Town of

Woodstock’s local capital improvement projects of $13,008,281.00 and capital

improvement plan as defined in Section 7-535 through 7-538, a copy of which plan is on

file in the Office of the Town Clerk and available for public inspection during

normal business hours; is hereby ratified and approved;

Greg Kline, seconded by David Fortin, made a motion to accept agenda item #3 as presented in the call of the meeting. **In Favor:** 16. **Opposed:** 13. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion passed.**

4) To authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for the State and Federal Grants;

Michael Dougherty, seconded by Karen Fitzpatrick, made a motion to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for the State and Federal Grants: **In Favor:** 51. **Opposed:** 1. **Abstentions:** 0. **Motion passed.**

5) To transact such other business as may properly come before said meeting; and

Carlene Haworth asked why there were no answers to Mr. Richardson’s questions. There was no reply to Ms. Haworth’s question.

6) To adjourn.

Karen Fitzpatrick, seconded by Michael Dougherty, made a motion to adjourn at 7:18pm. **In Favor:** 51. **Opposed:** 1. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion passed unanimously.**

To view the meeting click on the following link: <https://youtu.be/FCiHa5KLMAY>

Respectfully submitted,

Christine G. French

Assistant Town Clerk

**May 11, 2021 Referendum**

**Cancelled**

At a Special Board of Selectmen’s Meeting on May 7, 2021 First Selectman Jay Swan read the following statement:

A data error in the Assessor’s Office was detected this week by the Tax Collector and brought to the Assessor’s attention. The error resulted in a need to revise the 2020 Grand List. The situation was promptly looked into and handled by the Assessor, who informed the First Selectman and Finance Director of the corrected Net Grand List amount.

Selectman Greg Kline made a motion to cancel the 2021-2022 Budget Referendum, that had been scheduled for May 11, 2021. **In Favor:** Jay Swan, Greg Kline and Chandler Paquette. **Opposed:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion passed.**