

ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING
May 8, 2023

First Selectman Danielle Chesebrough called the Annual Town Budget Meeting of the Town of Stonington to order at 7:00 p.m. on May 8, 2023 at the Stonington High School auditorium. Also, in attendance was Selectwoman Deborah Downie. Selectwoman June Strunk was absent.

First Selectman Chesebrough asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. First Selectman Chesebrough then asked for nominations for Moderator. Selectwoman Downie nominated Mr. Eric Janney as Moderator. Being properly seconded by Deborah Norman and hearing no objections, Mr. Janney was unanimously elected Moderator of the meeting, and Town Clerk Sally Duplice served as clerk of the meeting.

There being no objection, the Moderator dispensed with reading the Call recorded immediately preceding these pages and asked for a resolution on the first item on the Call.

First Selectman Chesebrough moved and read the following resolution:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE LEGAL VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF STONINGTON IN LAWFUL MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED:

To appropriate sufficient sum or sums of money to carry on the various divisions of Town Government for the following purposes for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, all of which have been approved and recommended by the Board of Finance to the extent of the amount appearing opposite each:

OFFICE OF THE SELECTMAN	\$ 1,131,595
DEPT. OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	\$ 5,207,028
DEPT. OF ASSESSMENT	\$ 448,682
DEPT. OF FINANCE	\$ 1,812,920
DEBT SERVICE	\$ 7,614,625
DEPT. OF PLANNING & LAND USE	\$ 613,890
DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS	\$ 8,578,298
DEPT. OF POLICE SERVICES	\$ 7,501,440
DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES	\$ 1,944,878
BOARD OF EDUCATION	\$ 41,641,074
SCHEDULE C:	
LAND, BLDGS, IMPROVEMENTS & EQUIPMENT	\$ 3,664,774
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ <u>80,159,204</u>

The Board of Finance's recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 carries a 17.45 mil rate. Of the above budget, the amount to be raised by taxes is \$69,722,713.

Being properly seconded the Moderator recognized Town Clerk Sally Duplice who read the following letter:

April 19, 2023

Ms. Sally Duplice, Town Clerk
Stonington Town Hall
Stonington, CT 06378

Dear Ms. Duplice:

The Board of Selectmen, at its meeting held on April 19, 2023, voted to set the Annual Town Budget Meeting for Monday, May 8, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at Stonington High School, 176 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, CT.

The Board also voted to send the first item on the Annual Town Budget Meeting, called for May 8, 2023, to referendum. The Board set Tuesday, May 16, 2023 for the date of the Referendum to be held in the following voting places between the hours of 12:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.:

FIRST, FOURTH AND FIFTH DISTRICT Stonington Fire Station, 100 Main St., Stonington
SECOND AND THIRD DISTRICT Former Pawcatuck Middle School, 40 Field St., Pawcatuck

The wording for the question will be as follows:

"SHALL THE TOWN OF STONINGTON MAKE APPROPRIATIONS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$80,159,204 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023?"

The Adjourned Annual Town Budget meeting will reconvene at Stonington Town Hall at 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact this office.

Warm regards,
/s/ Danielle Chesebrough
First Selectman

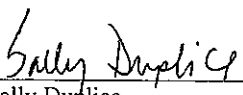
cc: Registrar of Voters

The Moderator explained that since the budget has been sent to referendum by the Board of Selectmen, there would be no vote on the resolution and opened the floor to discussion. Carlene Donnarummo spoke against the resolution, not that the budget itself is too high, but because the proposed mil rate is. With property values rising as a result of the revaluation, she is asking to consider taking more out of the unfunded balance and lowering the mil rate.

Hearing no more discussion, and since there is no further business on the Call, the Moderator declared the meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m. to reconvene at 8:30 p.m. on May 16, 2023 at Stonington Town Hall for the results of the referendum.

/s/ Sally Duplice
Clerk of the Meeting

Received for record this 9th day of May, 2023.


Sally Duplice
Town Clerk