

ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING

April 22, 2024

First Selectman Danielle Chesebrough called the Annual Town Budget Meeting of the Town of Stonington to order at 7:00 p.m. on April 22, 2024 at the Stonington High School auditorium. Also, in attendance was Selectwoman Deborah Downie. Selectman Ben Tamsky 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 Nancy Dunne 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, 2024, all of which have been approved and recommended by the Board of Finance to the extent of the amount appearing opposite each:

	Proposed Fiscal 24/25 Budget	Adopted Fiscal 23/24 Budget
OFFICE OF THE SELECTMAN	\$ 1,657,630	\$ 1,131,595
DEPT. OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	5,431,695	5,207,028
DEPT. OF ASSESSMENT	472,817	448,682
DEPT. OF FINANCE	1,999,569	1,812,920
DEBT SERVICE	7,100,156	7,614,625
DEPT. OF PLANNING & LAND USE	524,373	613,890
DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS	8,974,260	8,578,298
DEPT. OF POLICE SERVICES	7,637,366	7,501,440
DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES	1,673,804	1,944,878
BOARD OF EDUCATION	43,515,988	41,641,074
SCHEDULE C:		
LAND, BLDGS, IMPROVEMENTS & EQUIPMENT	7,630,909	3,664,774
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 86,618,567	\$ 80,159,204
Percentage Increase Over Prior Year Budget:	8.06%	4.45%
Mil Rate:	17.45	17.45
Amount to be raised by taxes:	\$ 70,405,221	\$ 69,722,713

The Board of Finance's recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 carries a 17.45 mil rate. Of the above budget, the amount to be raised by taxes is \$70,405,221.

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

April 11, 2024

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

Dear Ms. Duplice:

The Board of Selectmen, at its meeting held on April 10, 2024, voted to set the Annual Town Budget Meeting for Monday, April 22, 2024 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 April 22, 2024, to referendum. The Board set Tuesday, April 30, 2024 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

The wording for the question will be as follows:

"SHALL THE TOWN OF STONINGTON MAKE APPROPRIATIONS IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$86,618,567 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024?"

The Adjourned Annual Town Budget meeting will reconvene at Stonington Town Hall at 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 30, 2024.

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

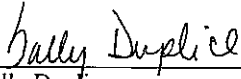
cc: Registrar of Voters

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. Leslie Dwyer, a Para Educator, came forth and thanked the Board of Education for showing up at Board of Finance meetings and hopes they can find a way to support Para Educators in the upcoming budget.

Hearing no more discussion, and since there is no further business on the Call, the Moderator declared the meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m. to reconvene at 8:30 p.m. on April 30, 2024 at Stonington Town Hall for the results of the referendum.

/s/ Sally Duplice
Clerk of the Meeting

Received for record this 23rd day of April, 2024.



Sally Duplice
Town Clerk