

**ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING
APRIL 23, 2013**

Selectman, Christina Mailhos called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. She then read the call of the meeting. Christina asked for nominations for a moderator. Christine Psathas nominated Jean Monty, whom has been certified by the state as a moderator and Gail Kapinos seconded the nomination. Motion carried.

Moderator read each question of the call.

ITEM 1

TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND EDUCATION BUDGETS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2013 TO JUNE 30, 2014 REGION 19 PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM BUDGET WAS WARNED BY THE REGIONAL DISTRICT AND SHALL APPEAR AS QUESTION 1 AT REFERENDUM ON MAY 7, 2013.

General Government \$4,109,780.00

Education K-8 \$8,009,617.00

Region 19 \$4,108,224.00

Total Town Budget \$16,227,621.00

No discussion.

ITEM II

TO SET A DATE, NOT LESS THAN SEVEN NOR MORE THAN FOURTEEN DAYS THEREAFTER, FOR A VOTE ON THE ANNUAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND EDUCATION BUDGETS BY A SEPARATE "YES OR "NO" VOTE ON THE VOTING MACHINES.

Christine Psathas made a motion to set Tuesday, May 7, 2013 as the date for referendum and seconded by Butch Littell. No discussion. Motion carried.

ITEM III

TO SET THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING AS THE POLLING PLACE AND TO SET THE HOURS, OF THE REFERENDUM, DURING WHICH VOTES MAY BE CAST, NOT LESS THAN BETWEEN THE HOURS OF TWELVE O'CLOCK NOON AND EIGHT O'CLOCK P.M. AND NOT MORE THAN BETWEEN THE HOURS OF SIX O'CLOCK A.M. AND EIGHT O'CLOCK P.M.

John Patton made a motion to set the Town Office Building as the polling place and that the time for the referendum is set for 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. and Mark Palmer seconded it. Discussion on changing the time from 6:00A.M. to 8:00P.M. to 12:00P.M. to 8:00P.M. because of the percentage of people who vote but the concern was that some people come in before work at 6:00A.M. and that the 6 to 8 time is more accommodating to the town residents for available time to vote. Motion carried.

ITEM IV

TO APPROVE THE 2011 – 2012 ANNUAL TOWN REPORT.

Mark Palmer made a motion to accept the Annual Town Report and Joe Froehlich seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried.

ITEM V

TO SEE IF THE TOWNSPEOPLE ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN, WILL ADOPT THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE FISCAL YEARS 2014 TO 2018.

John Patton made a motion to approve Item V Jim Harvey seconded

No discussion. Motion carried with one nay.

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ITEM VI

TO SEE IF THE TOWNSPEOPLE, WILL CONSIDER ADDING AN ADVISORY QUESTION TO THE REFERENDUM BALLOT. THE QUESTION WILL ASK “SHALL THE TOWN OF WILLINGTON CONSIDER CONTRACTING WITH THE CONNECTICUT STATE POLICE TO HAVE ONE STATE TROOPER TO PROVIDE POLICE PROTECTION FOR THE TOWN OF WILLINGTON AT A POTENTIAL COST OF UP TO \$150,000 A YEAR STARTING IN THE 2014-2015 FISCAL YEAR. IT COULD POTENTIALLY INCREASE THE MIL RATE BY .32 MILS WHICH EQUATES TO \$32 PER \$100,000 OF ASSESSED PROPERTY VALUE.”

Trish Froehlich made a motion to approve Item VI and was seconded by Butch Littell.

Discussion.

Christina wanted to clarify that this is a vote on whether to put the question on the referendum ballot not on voting on the question tonight.

Residents expressed concerns with that not as many people come out to vote on the referendum than the people come out to vote in the general election in November. The general election would be a better time for a vote.

A comment was made and question asked to know the justification for the need for a resident state trooper and the cost it would incur for the town. The town has good coverage now with Troop C and has had no problems with this.

Other concerns were speeding, vandalism at Halls Pond, Rec fields, theft of catch basins, signs, drugs, etc in town. A lack of communication between Troop C and the Selectmen, the low response time and the low solve rate was a concern and apartment complexes requesting coverage by a state trooper are other issues.

Christina was also concerned about the amount of gun permits being process through her office, that a resident state trooper would be responsible for it and have more information available than she does now.

Motion not carried by a 9 yes and 18 no vote.

A motion was made by John Patton and seconded by Butch Littell to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting to referendum to be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2013 from 6:00 A.M. to 8:00P.M.at Town Office Building, 40 Old Farms Road, Willington, Ct. 06279.

Motion carried.

Moderator, Jean Monty adjourned the meeting to referendum at 7:55 P.M.

Dated at Willington, this 24th day of April, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

Donna J. Hardie
Town Clerk