

MINUTES

Town of Easton – Annual Town Meeting

April 30, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.

Samuel Staples Elementary School, 515 Morehouse Road, Easton

Present:

Carolyn Colangelo, Selectman, Robert Lessler, Selectman; Joan Kirk, Assistant Town Clerk

Attendees:

Ed Nagy, Public Works Department, Director

Matthew Gachi, Board of Finance, Chair

Jeffrey Parker, Board of Education, Chair

Mike D'Agostino, Region 9 Board of Education, Chair

Tim Shaw, Easton Police Department, Chief

Over 80 members of the public

Carolyn Colangelo convened at 7:02 p.m.

The Selectman asked for a motion to nominate a Moderator. Jim Riling nominated Tom Herrmann. The motion was seconded. The nomination was approved by voice vote.

The Assistant Town Clerk read the call of the meeting. The Moderator continued with the agenda items.

Pledge of allegiance.

Item 1: Discussion and possible action on approval of the Town of Easton's participation in the Greater Bridgeport Regional Recycling Interlocal Agreement.

The Moderator called for a motion to approve the item. Andrew Kachele moved. The motion was seconded. The Moderator requested that all in favor of the motion signify by saying "aye." Motion carried by voice vote.

A resident asked if there were any differences in the new agreement. There were none.

Item 2: Discussion and possible action on the special appropriation of \$1,480,000 for the South Park Bridges.

The Moderator called for a motion to approve the item. Dori Wollen moved. The motion was seconded. The Moderator requested that all in favor of the motion signify by saying "aye." Motion carried by voice vote. The special appropriation is approved.

Mr. Nagy said the final repairs on the first bridge are in a holding pattern. The second bridge requires further information from Planning and Zoning. We need to front the funds and then present that amount to the state.

Item 3: Discussion and possible action on the special appropriation of \$51,000 for Easton Police dashboard cameras. (contingent on State Grant)

The Moderator called for a motion to approve the item. Steve Waugh moved. The motion was seconded.

The Moderator requested that all in favor of the motion signify by saying "aye." Motion carried by voice vote. The special appropriation is approved.

The state grant was passed in the House.

Item 4: Discussion of the proposed Annual Town Budget of \$44,157,632 for fiscal year 2018-2019 as recommended by the Board of Finance.

The moderator called for presentation of official comments, discussion, public comment and questions. Matthew Gachi said there was a 1.7% increase in the Town Budget and Region 9. Capital Expenditures are for a new fire engine, police car, dump truck and Morehouse restrooms.

Beverly Dacey asked if the numbers in the budget included the Teacher Pension Fund money. The response was "Yes." Anne Manusky asked where the additional funds for the Morehouse restroom will come from? The former capital project monies were depleted.

There will be fundraising and money from the activity fund.

Heidi Hanson read a letter from a resident who could not attend the meeting regarding the BOE budget.

Gowan Dacey asked about the new health insurance plan for the BOE. There is a 65% increase in the health insurance plan. The teacher's pay a portion of the premiums.

A Virginia Drive resident wanted to thank the BOE for all their hard work. She was pleased with the education that her child was receiving.

A resident asked about transportation for the sports teams. Combining a few teams on one bus would save money.

Jeff Becker on Cedar Hill Road asked about the 1% budget increase.

Item 5: Acceptance of the five-year capital project plan.

The Moderator called for a motion to vote to accept the five-year capital project plan. Jeffrey Parker moved. The motion was seconded. The Moderator requested that all in favor say "aye." Motion carried by voice vote. The five-year capital plan is approved.

Item 6: Set July 1, 2018 and January 2, 2019 for the 2017 grand list bills.

The Moderator called for a motion to set July 1, 2018 and January 2, 2019 for the 2017 grand list bills.

Andrew Kachele moved. The motion was seconded. The Moderator requested that all in favor say "aye." Motion carried by voice vote. The dates for the grand list bills as set out in the agenda are adopted.

Item 7: Adjournment of the Town Meeting to a machine vote to be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018, 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Samuel Staples Elementary School to vote on the Annual Budget for 2018-2019.

The Moderator called for a motion to adjourn the Town Meeting to a machine vote to be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2017. Michael Kot moved. The motion was seconded. No further discussion, public comment, or questions. The Moderator requested that all those in favor of adjourning say "aye." Motion carried by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Submitted by,

Joan Kirk

Assistant Town Clerk