

**Town of Easton-Annual Town Meeting****MINUTES****April 24, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.****Samuel Staples Elementary School, 515 Morehouse Road, Easton****Present:**

David Bindelglass, First Selectman

Kristi Sogofsky, Selectman

Robert Lessler, Selectman

Deborah Szegedi, Town Clerk

**Presenters and Attendees:**

Art Laske, Chair, Board of Finance

Randy Hicks, Chair Board of Education &amp; Dr. Jason McKinnon Superintendent

Mike D'Agostino, Chair Region 9 Board of Education

About 50 Easton Residents, Including members of The Board of Finance and Board of Education.

Meeting livestream available on Facebook and Zoom with over 116 livestream viewers. Recording

Available at <https://facebook.com/events/s/annual-town-meeting/732937615230333/>And on the Website at: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/8284458/video/821116418>

David Bindelglass convened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

The Town Clerk read the call of the meeting.

The First Selectman said the first order of business was to elect a moderator, but before we do that he reminded the public of what the Town Meeting was and how we should conduct ourselves.

The First Selectman asked for a motion to nominate a Moderator. Wendy Bowditch nominated Tom Herrmann. The motion was seconded by June Logie. No further nominations. The nomination was approved by voice vote.

The moderator asked to approve the Agenda as circulated by general consent.

June Logie asked to Agenda amended to have 2 items added to the agenda.

1. Removal of the Chairman Ray Martin from the Planning and Zoning Commission.
2. Discussion and possible action on EVS approval by P & Z for a Commercial Business at that location.

After discussions and comment by the Moderator & Selectman Robert Lessler, it was determined that these items could not be added.

**Discussion of the proposed Annual Town Budget of \$48,574,643 for fiscal year 2023-2024 as recommended by the Board of Finance to a machine vote.**

**Presentation by Board of Finance****Presentation by Board of Education given by Randy Hicks & Dr. Jason McKinnon****Presentation by Region 9 given by Mike D'Agostino**

The Board of Finance Presentation is available on the Town Website

[https://www.eastonct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif3071/f/pages/april\\_2023\\_budget\\_presentation.pdf](https://www.eastonct.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif3071/f/pages/april_2023_budget_presentation.pdf)

Art Laske, Chair of the Board of Finance summarized the presentation for the budget proposal for FY 2023/2024. He took questions at the end of the presentation.

Members of the Public who had questions or comments:

June Logie

Gina Blaze

Dori Wollen

Beverly Dacey

Debbi Barer

Sharon Ann Smith

Leslie Minasi

Randy Hicks and Dr. Jason McKinnon gave the presentation for the Board of Education.

Questions/comments were taken at the end.

Budget information can be found at:

<https://www.er9.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=237639&pageId=1995331>

Members of the Public who had questions or comments:

Anne Manusky

Beverly Dacey

Mike D'Agostino presented for Region 9 Board of Education. Dr. McKinnon spoke about the Learning Centers.

Mike D'Agostino spoke about the Region 9 bonding proposal, he took questions /comments after both presentations.

Members of the Public who had questions or comments:

Anne Manusky

First Selectman David Bindelglass

Joe Calzone

#### **Acceptance of the five-year capital plan project.**

Art Laske, Chair of the Board of Finance, presented the five-year capital project plan. The Moderator asked for a motion to accept the five-year capital plan as presented by Chairman Lasky. He will call for a second and then have discussion and questions. Motion accepted and seconded. Art Lasky took questions/comments.

Members of the Public who had questions or comments:

June Logie

No other questions or comments. The Moderation called the vote The Moderation called the vote he stated all in favor signify by saying "aye", all opposed signify by saying "nay". Any abstentions? Motion to accept the five-year capital plan passes by voice vote. The five-year capital plan was approved.

Before the adjournment of the Town Meeting Gina Blaze was allowed to speak about a Library Book.

Adjournment of the Annual Town Meeting at 8:57 p.m. to a machine vote to be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Samuel Staples Elementary School to vote on the Annual Budget and Region 9 bonding proposal.

Submitted by,  
Deborah Szegedi  
Easton Town Clerk