

TOWN OF EAST LYME
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
MAY 13, 2024

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EAST LYME, CT

2024 MAY 14 P 12:13

Marc Salerno, Town Meeting Moderator led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Karen Miller Galbo, East Lyme Town Clerk read the Call of the Meeting, stating it had been advertised in The Day newspaper, recording in the Town Clerk's Office, and posted on the signpost and on the Town Website.

Mr. Salerno reviewed the ground rules for the Annual Town Meeting and appointed the Registrars of Voters as tellers and checkers.

1. To review and discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 as recommended by the Board of Finance.
 - a. In accordance with Chapter 7.3 of the Town Charter, the moderator shall adjourn the annual budget meeting to a referendum on the voting machines. The budget resolution will be submitted to the persons qualified to vote in a Town Meeting by Referendum by machine vote, which referendum shall take place on May 23, 2024, at the East Lyme Community Center from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Salerno noted there will be no vote on this item tonight as the item is automatically going to Referendum. The Referendum will take place on May 23th at the East Lyme Community Center from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Dan Cunningham, First Selectman thanked everyone in attendance, and the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, Finance Director Kevin Gervais, and Department Heads. He stressed this budget session to have needs over wants, but still provide the same services to the residents of the Town. He discussed the budget process.

Denise Hall, Board of Finance Chairwoman thanked everyone in attendance, the Board of Finance welcomes comments and the members email addresses are on the Town Website. She discussed the proposed budget with a proposed Mill Rate of 26.35.

Bill Rix, 8 Islanda Court stated he has no problem with the budget, but does have issues with the hiring of the new Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief. He has been involved in fire services since he was 15. He feels the volunteers should have had input on the hiring and that people should have had the opportunity to apply for the jobs.

Michael Schulz, 14 Lovers Lane thanked all of the board members for their work, but he does not think the expenditures are sustainable.

Elizabeth Kuchta, 154 Pennsylvania Avenue, stated she is the Town Historian, and the Secretary of the Historic Cemeteries, she was saddened to see the cuts to Community Service Groups, they take care of Town land and mow town property.

Denise Hall stated Services to Community were cut because the Board of Finance thought the Board of Selectmen should have a policy written up for these donations. We do already have a Historic Properties Commission and Youth Family and Human Services, so the Board of Finance thought there may be some donating to non-profits while the Town is also providing the same services. The Town needs a policy and they thought a good solution was to reduce the budget and turn it over to the Board of Selectmen to create the policy. This does not mean they were all cut.

2. To adopt a Five-Year Capital Plan.

Motion (1) Denise Hall moved to approve Item 2

Seconded by Ann Cicchiello.

Denise Hall said this Capital Plan is a work in progress and they hope they can fine tune it more.

Michael Schulz asked about roof replacements being for 20 year roofs, why not just do 30 year roofs, and he hopes they keep that in mind.

Motion (1) Passed.

3. To conduct such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Motion (2) Denise Hall moved to adjourn the Annual Town Meeting to Referendum.

Seconded by Ann Cicchiello.

Motion (2) Passed.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen Miller Galbo
East Lyme Town Clerk