

**TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
SENIOR CENTER/MEETING ROOM
TOWN HALL
APRIL 22, 2014**

First Selectman Dan Jerram called the meeting to order at 7:13 PM. First Selectman Jerram opened the floor to nominations for Moderator. Motion Noel Gauthier, second Selectman, Jack Casey to nominate Alesia Kennerson as Moderator. Hearing no further nominations, First Selectman Jerram called for a voice vote on the motion. The motion to elect Alesia Kennerson as Moderator was unanimously approved.

Moderator Kennerson read the call of the meeting:

TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD

**NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING – APRIL 22, 2014
(amended)**

The Board of Selectmen of the Town of New Hartford, CT hereby notifies all electors and citizens entitled to vote in Town Meetings in said Town of New Hartford, that the Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2014, immediately following the Annual Budget Meeting which begins at 7:00 PM in the Senior Center/Meeting Room of the New Hartford Town Hall, 530 Main Street, in New Hartford, CT for the following purposes:

1. Upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance, to take such action as the voters deem best with respect to approving a modification to the repayment terms of a \$130,000 loan granted to the Water Pollution Control Authority in February 2009.

2. To take such action as the voters deem best with respect to an amendment to “Ordinance creating the New Hartford Land Preservation Fund and Open Space Preservation Commission.” A copy of the proposed ordinance is on file in the Office of the New Hartford Town Clerk, 530 Main Street, New Hartford, CT.

3. To take such action as the voters deem best with respect to the adoption of an Ordinance entitled "Retirement Board." A copy of the proposed ordinance is on file in the Office of the New Hartford Town Clerk, 530 Main Street, New Hartford, CT.
4. To take such action as the voters deem best with respect to the approval of modifications made to the Town of New Hartford Pension Plan document. A copy of the revised document is on file in the Office of the New Hartford Town Clerk, 530 Main Street, New Hartford, CT.
5. To take such action as the voters deem best with respect to the election of one member to the Stanclift Cove Authority, term to expire 6/30/2017.

Dated at New Hartford, Connecticut this 16th day of April, 2014.

Board of Selectmen

Daniel V. Jerram, First Selectman
Alesia Kennerson, Selectman
John (Jack) H. Casey, Selectman

Moderator Kennerson read the return of posting and publication

**RETURN OF POSTING AND PUBLICATION
OF NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

I, Daniel V. Jerram, First Selectman of the Town of New Hartford, Connecticut, hereby certify that I caused a copy of the foregoing Notice of the Annual Town Meeting to be posted on the Town signpost on Wednesday, April 16, 2014 and also published in the Hartford Courant, a newspaper published in Hartford, Connecticut and having a general circulation in the Town of New Hartford, on Thursday, April 17, 2014. An amended Notice of the Annual Town Meeting was published in the NH+Independent Community News on Friday, April 18, 2014.

Dated this 22nd day of April, 2014

Daniel V. Jerram, First Selectman

ITEM NUMBER 1: Upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance, to take such action as the voters deem best with respect to approving a modification to the repayment terms of a \$130,000 loan granted to the Water Pollution Control Authority in February 2009.

Moderator Kennerson called for a motion to accept the modified repayment terms of the \$130,000 loan granted to the Water Pollution Control Authority in 2009?

Motion Daria Hart, Second Selectman Jack Casey to accept.

Moderator Kennerson opened floor to discussion.

Chairman of the WPCA, Bill Michaud was recognized by Moderator Kennerson to explain that the restructuring is part of a larger plan to attempt to stabilize the rates being paid by the users. The initial plans put in place in 2007 and 2008 included expansion of the sewer system which has not come to fruition due to economic factors. They are working to bring new users onto the system. Additionally, they have experienced problems with collection largely due to how high the rates have become. Actions have been taken to deal with those issues. Five years ago, the Town transferred \$130,000 to assist the WPCA with cash flow. \$41,000 was used to hire a consultant who found a grant to assist with costs and also recommended some planning items. That \$130,000 is the subject of this item. The repayment over 10 years instead of a lump sum will assist the WPCA with cash flow going forward. (Attachment 1)

Moderator Kennerson asked for further comments or questions and hearing none, called for a vote on the motion to accept by show of hands. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM NUMBER 2 To take such action as the voters deem best with respect to an amendment to “Ordinance creating the New Hartford Land Preservation Fund and Open Space Preservation Commission.” A copy of the proposed

ordinance is on file in the Office of the New Hartford Town Clerk, 530 Main Street, New Hartford, CT.

Moderator Kennerson called for a motion to approve the Amendment to the Ordinance Creating the New Hartford Land Preservation Fund and Open Space Preservation Commission?

Motion Selectman Jack Casey, Second Bill Michaud to approve the amendment.

Moderator Kennerson opened floor to discussion.

Member of the Open Space Preservation Commission, Jean Cronauer was recognized by Moderator Kennerson to explain the purpose of the change to the ordinance due to the difficulty in finding individuals who would serve on both the Board of Finance and the OSPC and the EDC and the OSPC. Ms. Cronauer clarified that they intended to continue to communicate with the Board of Finance and the EDC. OSPC has been designated by the State to serve to serve as the Agricultural Commission for the Community Farm Preservation Program and it would be difficult to fulfill those additional responsibilities without a full seated commission. (Attachment 2)

Hearing no further discussion, Moderator Kennerson called for a vote by show of hands. Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM NUMBER 3: To take such action as the voters deem best with respect to the adoption of an Ordinance entitled "Retirement Board." A copy of the proposed ordinance is on file in the Office of the New Hartford Town Clerk, 530 Main Street, New Hartford, CT.

Moderator Kennerson called for a motion to adopt the Ordinance entitled "Retirement Board"?

Motion Selectman, Jack Casey, Second Noel Gauthier to adopt.

Moderator Kennerson opened the floor to discussion.

Moderator Kennerson recognized First Selectman Jerram to explain the need for the Town to change the type of retirement plan from a pension or defined benefit plan to a defined contribution plan. As a result, the former terminology of a pension board is not accurate. The Retirement Board will continue to administer the prior defined benefit plan and the new defined contribution plan. Mr. Jerram asked Bill Smith of the Retirement Board to confirm the accuracy of these statements. (Attachment 3)

Moderator Kennerson called for a vote by show of hands, motion carried unanimously.

ITEM NUMBER 4 To take such action as the voters deem best with respect to the approval of modifications made to the Town of New Hartford Pension Plan document. A copy of the revised document is on file in the Office of the New Hartford Town Clerk, 530 Main Street, New Hartford, CT.

Moderator Kennerson called for a motion to approve the revised Pension Plan document as presented?

Motion Selectman, Jack Casey, Second Treasurer Gordon Ross to approve.

Moderator Kennerson opened the floor to discussion.

Moderator Kennerson recognized First Selectman Jerram to explain the change in the type of retirement plan from a pension or defined benefit plan to a defined contribution plan. Employees hired under the former pension plan will continue to accrue and receive benefits under the former plan. New employees hired under the defined contribution plan will accrue benefits under the new plan. A prior error which excluded one of the five bargaining units within the town has been corrected to include all the employees covered by this Plan. The revised plan also accommodates changes in IRS laws. This plan has been reviewed by Shipman & Goodwin, legal counsel and approved by the current Pension Board. (Attachment 4)

Moderator Kennerson called for a vote by show of hands. Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM NUMBER 5: To take such action as the voters deem best with respect to the election of one member to the Stanclift Cove Authority, term to expire 6/30/2017.

Moderator Kennerson called for nominations for election to the Stanclift Cove Authority for a term expiring June 30, 2017.

Motion Penny Miller, second Noel Gauthier to nominate Melanie Dias.

Moderator Kennerson asked for additional nominations from the floor.

Motion Daria Hart, Second Jim Chakulski to close nominations

Moderator Kennerson called for a vote by show of hands, motion carried unanimously.

First Selectman Jerram commented that Ms. Dias had to work this evening, but has been a long time volunteer on Stanclift Cove Authority.

Moderator Kennerson called for a vote by show of hands to elect Melanie Dias. Motion carried unanimously.

Moderator Kennerson announced that having no other business on the agenda of this town meeting, she would entertain a motion to adjourn.

Motion Noel Gauthier, Second Bill Michaud to adjourn at 7:37 pm.

A True Copy

Attest: *Donna N. LaPlante*

Town Clerk