

**ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING  
SENIOR CENTER/MEETING ROOM  
NEW HARTFORD TOWN HALL  
APRIL 24, 2018**

The Annual Budget Meeting of the Town of New Hartford was held on Tuesday April 24, 2018 in the Senior Center/Meeting Room of the New Hartford Town Hall. First Selectman Dan Jerram called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

First Selectman Jerram opened the floor to nominations for Moderator. Motion Noel Gauthier, second Greg O'Brien to nominate Alesia Kennerson as Moderator.

Motion Linda Goff, second Madeline McClave to close nominations. Unanimously approved by voice vote.

First Selectman Jerram called for a voice vote on the motion. The motion to elect Alesia Kennerson as Moderator was unanimously approved.

Moderator Kennerson opened the meeting by asking all present to rise and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator Kennerson read the Call of the Meeting:

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING – APRIL 24, 2018  
NOTICE OF REFERENDUM – MAY 8, 2018**

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, Connecticut that the Annual Budget Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 24, 2018, at 7:00 pm in the Senior Center/Meeting Room of the New Hartford Town Hall, 530 Main Street, in New Hartford for the following purposes:

1. To consider and act upon the Town Budget recommended by the Board of Finance for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018.

2. Pursuant to Section 7-7 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, to adjourn said budget meeting at its conclusion and to submit Item number 1 on the call of this meeting to be voted upon using voting tabulators on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Electors residing in the Voting District #1 shall vote at the New Hartford Town Hall, 530 Main Street in New Hartford. Electors residing in the Voting District #2 shall vote at the South End Fire House, 20 Antolini Road in New Hartford. Voters qualified to vote at town meeting who are not electors shall vote at their respective polling places. Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk, 530 Main Street, New Hartford, CT and will be counted at their respective polling places. The question to be voted upon shall be placed on the ballots as:

“Shall the Budget of the Town of New Hartford including General Government, New Hartford Board of Education and Capital Expenditures, recommended by the Board of Finance for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2018, be accepted?”

Voters approving the question will vote “Yes” and those opposing the question will vote “No.”

Dated at New Hartford, CT this 11th day of April, 2018.

Daniel V. Jerram, First Selectman

Alesia Kennerson, Selectman

Eric B. Claman, Selectman

Donna LaPlante, Town Clerk

Moderator Kennerson read the Return of Posting and Publication.

#### **RETURN OF POSTING AND PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF ANNUAL BUDGET 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 Budget Meeting/Notice of Referendum to be posted on the Town signpost on Thursday, April 12, 2018 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 Tuesday, April 17, 2018.

Dated this 24th day of April, 2018.

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Daniel V. Jerram, First Selectman

### **ITEM NUMBER # 1:**

To consider and act upon the Town Budget recommended by the Board of Finance for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018

Moderator Kennerson stated that the Board of Selectmen, in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes 7-7, have removed item # 1 from the call of this meeting and adjourned such vote on the budget to a referendum to be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 between the hours of 6:00 AM and 8:00 PM.

In accordance with section 7-6 of the CT General Statutes, as amended, only an elector of the town or a citizen of the United States of the age of eighteen years or more who, jointly or severally, was liable to the town for taxes assessed against him based on an assessment of not less than \$1,000 on the last completed grand list of the town or who would have been so liable if not entitled to an exemption as a blind person or as a veteran or as a parent or surviving spouse of a veteran who would be entitled to vote at the meeting would be entitled to vote at the referendum.

Moderator Kennerson explained that there will be no action taken regarding the proposed budget, but that if anyone wishes to comment on the budget, they may do so.

Linda Goff mentioned that she is disappointed with the Board of Finance and the handling of this budget. At the public budget hearing, people were able to speak about the budget. Following the hearing the Board of Finance held a meeting where public comment was not permitted and made further cuts to the proposed budget. She noted that the budget being voted at referendum is not the same budget that was presented at the budget hearing. Ms. Goff added that when the library was created it was supposed to be self-sustaining and at this meeting the Board of Finance increased the town funding to the library. She does not believe it is right that the residents are being asked to vote on a budget on which they did not have input. First Selectman Jerram noted that the Board of Finance is the final authority on the budget.

Elizabeth Thorpe commented that since the library is only 1% of the budget she does not believe it is that bad.

Aulay Carlson commented that there is a \$45,000 police car in the budget again, but he would like to know what the need is for a new police car. First Selectmen Jerram responded that the Board of Selectmen has a plan for maintaining and replacing town vehicles. The vehicle being replaced is 10 years old and has over 100,000 miles and especially for emergency vehicles it is important to have reliable vehicles.

Greg O'Brien commented that he believes it is important that our officers have reliable transportation to be able to respond when residents need them. He is 100% in favor of our police officers having every tool they could possibly need to protect each of us.

Peter Anderheggen commented that as a resident of the town for 25 years, three-fourths of his tax dollars have funded education although he has not had children in the system. The library is a source of education to all residents regardless of age. If our library were to be fully self-funded it would be the only library in the state that is self-funded. Mr. Anderheggen believes that the Beekley Library gets less money from the town than any other library in the State. He added that the library should not be in competition with the Board of Education.

Linda Goff noted that she was not attacking the library but was using that as an example of how the budget being sent to referendum is not the same as the one which was presented at the public hearing.

Moderator Kennerson hearing no further discussion on the budget proceeded to Item Number 2.

## **ITEM NUMBER 2:**

Moderator Kennerson asked for a motion to approve the following: Resolved, in accordance with this notice, to hold a referendum on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 between the hours of 6:00 am and 8:00 pm using machine vote to vote on the following question:

“Shall the Budget of the Town of New Hartford including General Government, New Hartford Board of Education and Capital Expenditures, recommended by the Board of Finance for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2018 be accepted?”

Voters approving the question will vote “Yes” and those opposing the question will vote “No.”

Motion Denton Butler, second Ellen Childs to approve the motion as read.

Moderator Kennerson called for discussion and hearing none called for a voice vote. *Majority In favor - One opposed.* *Motion Carries.*

Having no other business to conduct in the budget meeting, Moderator Kennerson asked for a motion to adjourn to referendum.

Motion Peter Anderheggen, second Noel Gauthier to adjourn this meeting to the Referendum to be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018. Unanimously approved by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned to referendum at 7:26 pm.

A True Copy

Attest: Donna N. LaPlante, Town Clerk