

**TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 19, 2022**

The Annual Town Meeting of the Town of New Hartford was held on Tuesday April 19, 2022.

Attendees included Dan Jerram, Christine Hayward, Lynn Florio, Greg O'Brien, Diana & Bernard Witte, Noel & Karen Gauthier, Lou Helt, Robert Jerram, Michael Jerram, Penny Miller, and others.

First Selectman Dan Jerram called the meeting to order at 7:12 PM.

First Selectman Jerram opened the floor to nominations for Moderator.

Motion: Noel Gauthier to nominate Alesia Kennerson as moderator; seconded by Penny Miller.

First Selectman asked if there were any other nominations. There were no other nominations.

First Selectman Jerram asked for a motion to close nominations.

Motion to close nominations by Greg O'Brien, seconded Michael Jerram. Unanimous

First Selectman Jerram called for a vote to elect Alesia Kennerson as Moderator. Unanimous.

Moderator Kennerson read the call of the Meeting:

**TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD
NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2022
NOTICE OF REFERENDUM
TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2022**

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 19, 2022, immediately following the close of 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.) To hold a Public Hearing in accordance with Section 7-163e of the Connecticut General Statutes to discuss the proposed sale of the real property associated with the sale of the water and wastewater assets of the Town of New Hartford to Aquarion Water Company.

- 2.) To consider and act upon the recommendations made by the Board of Finance regarding appropriations to be made utilizing the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds totaling \$984,400.00.

3.) To elect a member to the Stanclift Cove Authority; term to expire June 30, 2025.

4.) Pursuant to Section 7-7 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, to adjourn said Annual Town Meeting at its conclusion and to submit Item number 2 on the call of this meeting to be voted upon using voting tabulators on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 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 appropriations totaling \$984,400.00 utilizing funds received through the American Rescue Plan Act as recommended by the Board of Finance be accepted?" Voters approving the question will vote "Yes" and those opposing the question will vote "No."

Dated at New Hartford, CT this 5th day of April, 2022

Board of Selectmen

Daniel V. Jerram, First Selectman

Alesia Kennerson, Selectman

Laura Garay, Selectman

Moderator Kennerson read the Return of Posting and Publication of Annual Town Meeting.

RETURN OF POSTING AND PUBLICATION 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 Notice of the Annual Town Meeting to be posted on the Town signpost on Thursday, April 7, 2022 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 7, 2022 and again on Thursday, April 14, 2022.

Daniel V. Jerram, First Selectman

Moderator Kennerson read agenda Item number 1:

ITEM NUMBER 1:

1.) To hold a Public Hearing in accordance with Section 7-163e of the Connecticut General Statutes to discuss the proposed sale of the real property associated with the sale of the water and wastewater assets of the Town of New Hartford to Aquarion Water Company.

Moderator Kennerson turned the meeting over to First Selectman Dan Jerram to give a brief explanation regarding the proposed sale.

First Selectman Jerram explained that Statue Section 7-163e requires that prior to the sale of town property that a public hearing be held and that it be noticed and posted twice within six months prior to sale. It had been noticed but had only been posted once and even though it had not been challenged and the challenge period had passed, the town attorney suggested it be posted again for transparency. Legal notices were published on April 7th and again on April 14th. Signs were placed at all five properties being transferred; the two parcels at the sewer plant, one at the corner of Route 44 and Route 219 at the pumping station, the property at the well house at New Hartford Elementary by the river, and the well house on Church Street. Jerram noted that there have been other public meetings that were held regarding this sale and there has been a lot of opportunity for the public to ask questions and be heard. Mr. Jerram stated that rather than do a presentation regarding the sale, he would answer questions that people had regarding this proposed sale.

Moderator Kennerson opened the floor to questions. Noel Gauthier asked for a brief outline of the timeline and how it is progressing. Selectman Jerram explained that 90% of the legal paperwork had been done and the application to PURA will be the next step. There are some deeds and easements that need to be completed. One easement in particular that is currently being negotiated is an easement that will grant ownership of the water and sewer lines within Pine Meadow Farms to the Town. This should have been completed years ago when Pine Meadow Farms was developed, but was somehow overlooked. This easement needs to grant ownership to the town and then the town will transfer those rights to Aquarion as part of the sale. Meetings are ongoing to get all of the paperwork completed so that an application can be filed with PURA. Jerram noted that Aquarion is being very thorough with all the preparation as there has never been an application for the purchase of a sewer system to PURA. This is new territory and they are proceeding cautiously. Mr. Guathier thanked Mr. Jerram for his response.

Moderator Kennerson asked if there were any other questions. No questions.

Moderator Kennerson asked for a motion to close the public hearing.

Motion: by Michael Jerram; second by Lou Helt.

Moderator Kennerson asked for a vote to close the public hearing. Unanimous.

Moderator Kennerson announced that the public hearing was closed.

ITEM NUMER 2:

To consider and act upon the recommendations made by the Board of Finance regarding appropriations to be made utilizing the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds totaling \$984,400.00.

Moderator Kennerson announced that copies of the approved appropriations have been made available to the public and asked if there were any questions regarding the recommended appropriations.

First Selectman Jerram made a comment for the record that the \$984,400.00 only represents half of the total ARPA appropriation coming to the town. The Board of Selectmen has made recommendations to the Board of Finance regarding use of the initial funds as outlined on the document that is available to the public. The total \$984,400.00 expenditure will be voted on; not the individual suggested appropriations. There will be another opportunity for additional funding for other initiatives when the town receives the next ARPA disbursement.

Moderator Kennerson asked if there were any questions and there were none.

Moderator Kennerson announced that pursuant to CT General Statutes 7-7, this item has been adjourned to a referendum and therefore no vote would be taken on this item at this time.

ITEM NUMER 3:

To elect a member to the Stanclift Cove Authority; term to expire June 30, 2025.

Moderator Kennerson asked for nominations for this vacancy.

Motion: Greg O'Brien nominated Penny Miller.

Moderator Kennerson informed Greg that Penny Miller already serves as the chair for Stanclift Cove Authority.

Motion Withdrawn: Greg O'Brien.

Motion: by Penny Miller to nominate Erik Perotti to serve on the Board of the Stanclift Cove Authority; seconded by Annie Witte.

Moderator Kennerson asked for a motion to close nominations.

Motion: Michael Jerram, second Greg O'Brien.

Moderator Kennerson asked for a vote to close the nominations. Unanimous.

Moderator asked for a vote to elect Erik Perotti. Unanimous.

Moderator Kennerson announces that Erik Perotti has been elected to serve on the Stanclift Cove Authority for a term that begins July 1, 2022 and expires on June 30, 2025.

ITEM NUMBER 4:

Pursuant to CT General Statutes 7-7; the Board of Selectmen have adjourned this town meeting to a referendum to be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2022;

Moderator Kennerson asked:

May I have a Motion to approve the following:

Resolved, in accordance with this notice, to hold a Referendum on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 between the hours of 6:00 am and 8:00 pm using machine vote to vote on the following question:

“Shall the appropriations totaling \$984,400.00 utilizing funds received through the American Rescue Plan Act as recommended by the Board of Finance be accepted?”

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

Motion: Robert Jerram, second Greg O’Brien.

First Selectman Jerram made a comment for the record that the town votes on the town budget and regional 7 budget separately, resulting in two questions on the ballot; however, this year there will be three questions on the ballot; (1) the town budget, (2) regional 7 budget and (3) approval of the use of the ARPA funds.

Moderator asked for vote. Unanimous.

Moderator Kennerson ask for a motion to adjourn meeting to a referendum to be held on Tuesday, May 3, 2022.

Motion: by Greg O’Brien, second by Robert Jerram;

Unanimous

Moderator Kennerson declares meeting adjourned to referendum 7:28 pm.

A True Copy

Attest: Lynn A. Florio, Town Clerk