

ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING NEW HARTFORD TOWN HALL TUESDAY MAY 1, 2012

The Annual Budget Meeting of the Town of New Hartford was held on Tuesday May 1, 2012 at the New Hartford Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by First Selectman Dan Jerram. Selectman Jerram opened the floor to nominations for Moderator. Motion, James Jerram, second Kate Rieger to nominate Reg Smith, Jr. for Moderator. Hearing no further nominations, First Selectman Jerram called for a voice vote on the motion to elect Reg Smith, Jr. as moderator. The motion to elect Reg Smith, Jr. as Moderator was unanimously approved.

Moderator Smith read the Call of the Meeting and the Return of Posting and Publication..

ITEM # 1: TO CONSIDER AND ACT UPON THE TOWN BUDGET RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2012

Moderator Smith announced the following: 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, 2012 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.

Maria Moore questioned the validity of the legal notice. Moderator Smith cited that portion of State Statute 7-7 which gives the selectmen the authority to remove any item on the call of a town meeting for submission to the voters, indicating that the Town had followed the statutory process. Maria Moore then indicated she would like to discuss the budget. Moderator Smith then said, he had reviewed Statute 7-7 and written opinions of past town attorneys and as Moderator, he would be willing to entertain a motion to discuss the budget to let the body decide, since a portion of Statute 7-7 also refers to the holding of a reasonable discussion before adjourning the meeting to referendum. Denton Butler questioned holding a discussion of the budget since the question had been removed. Moderator Smith reiterated he would be willing to entertain a motion to discuss the budget. Motion Maria Moore, To discuss the budget. Motion seconded by Daria Hart for purpose of placing the motion on the floor. Moderator Smith called for a show of hands on the motion to discuss the budget. Aye 3. Nay 10. Motion to discuss the budget failed.

ITEM NUMBER 2:

Moderator Smith asked for a motion to approve the following: Resolved, in accordance with this notice, to hold a referendum on **Tuesday, May 8, 2012** 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, 2012 be accepted?”

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

Motion Penny Miller, second Daria Hart. Moderator Smith called for a voice vote on the motion. Approved unanimously.

Moderator Smith announced that since there was no other business to conduct, he would entertain a motion to adjourn.

Motion to Adjourn by Penny Miller, seconded by Polly Pobuda. Moderator Smith called for a voice vote on the motion to adjourn. Unanimously approved. Moderator Reg Smith, Jr. declared the meeting adjourned at 7:14PM.

A True Copy

Attest: _____

Town Clerk