

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF WOODSTOCK
May 8, 2018**

The Annual Town Meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of Woodstock, Connecticut, will be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Woodstock Town Hall, 415 Route 169 in Woodstock. The Annual Town Meeting will be held to consider the following actions and to vote on the following resolutions:

- 1) To elect a Moderator;
- 2) To approve the proposed budget of the Town of Woodstock for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 in the amount of \$23,560,650.00 as has been recommended by the Board of Finance and to appropriate said sum to meet the recommended expenditures;
- 3) To adopt a Capital Improvement Plan for a five-year period ending 2022-2023 as has been recommended by the Board of Finance; RESOLVED, that the Town of Woodstock's local capital improvement projects of \$7,620,872.00 and capital improvement plan as defined in Section 7-535 through 7-538, a copy of which plan is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk and available for public inspection during normal business hours, is hereby ratified and approved;
- 4) To consider and act on a resolution approving an expenditure not to exceed \$140,000 from the Woodstock Agricultural Land Preservation and Land Acquisition Fund as the town's contribution towards the purchase price and associated costs of the development rights of approximately 129+/- acre parcel currently owned by Timothy, Wendy, Lucas and Angela Young situated on the generally northern side of Child Hill Road, in the town of Woodstock, Connecticut known as Valleyside Farm, being a portion of a certain piece or parcel shown and designated by the Woodstock Tax Assessor as Map 7280, Block 29, and Lot 09 and described at Volume 305 page 29 in the Woodstock Land Records. The town's contribution toward the purchase price will be in addition to the funding provided by the State of Connecticut Department of Agriculture.
- 5) To authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for the State and Federal Grants;
- 6) To transact such other business as may properly come before said meeting; and
- 7) To adjourn.

Please Note: Pursuant to Section 7-7 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Woodstock Board of Selectmen have on their own initiative removed the foregoing Item #2 and Item #4 for submission to the voters of the Town of Woodstock by referendum to be held on May 15, 2018 from 12:00 Noon to 8:00 PM at the Woodstock Town Hall. Voters approving the questions will vote "Yes" and those opposing the questions will vote "No." Absentee ballots will be available at the Office of the Town Clerk. Dated at Woodstock, Connecticut, this 19th day of April, 2018.
Michael L. Alberts, First Selectman, Chandler Paquette, Selectman, Frank Olah, Selectman
Attest: Judy E. Walberg, Town Clerk

RECEIPTS	ESTIMATED	PROPOSED
	2017-18	2018-19
Cash Available for Appropriation	\$ 351,062	\$ 573,970
Prior Taxes, Interest & Liens, MVS	\$ 360,000	\$ 420,000
State Grants:		
Education	\$ 4,344,361	\$ 4,672,381
Tax Relief for Elderly	\$ 46,000	\$ -
Other State Money	\$ 290,915	\$ 120,407
Other Income	\$ 460,691	\$ 528,420
Total Cash Balances & Receipts	\$ 5,853,029	\$ 6,315,178
EXPENDITURES		
Ordinary Expenditures:		
General Government	\$ 2,046,657	\$ 1,871,491
Public Safety	\$ 857,448	\$ 855,302
Highways	\$ 1,533,197	\$ 1,505,517
Health, Recreation & Welfare	\$ 518,321	\$ 510,373
Contingency	\$ 50,000	\$ 75,000
Redemption of Debt	\$ 386,268	\$ 548,614

Board of Education Budget	\$ 17,282,923	\$ 18,194,353
Total Expenditures	\$ 22,674,814	\$ 23,560,650
Less Cash Balances & Receipts	\$ 5,853,029	\$ 6,315,178
TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION	\$ 16,821,785	\$ 17,245,472

*SUBJECT TO CHANGE

2018-2019	Proposed Mill Rate	24.7
2017-2018	Current Mill Rate	24.3
	Increase in Mill Rate	0.4

**RETURN OF NOTICE
TOWN OF WOODSTOCK**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT on April 20 , 2018 I left a duplicate of the attached warning and notice of Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Woodstock, Connecticut, with Judy E. Walberg, its' Town Clerk.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I caused a copy of said warning and notice to be published in the Woodstock Villager, a newspaper having substantial circulation in said Town, on April 27, 2018.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT ON April 23 , 2018, I caused to be set upon the Legal Notice Board, and at all places and signposts designated by the Town, a written copy of said warning and notice signed by the Selectmen.

I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT all of the above acts were done at least five days before the holding of said meeting on May 8, 2018.

Michael L. Alberts, First Selectman

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing Notice and Return of Notice are duly recorded in the records of the Town of Woodstock, Connecticut.

Judy E. Walberg, Town Clerk

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF WOODSTOCK
May 8, 2018**

The Annual Town Meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of Woodstock, Connecticut, will be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Woodstock Town Hall, 415 Route 169 in Woodstock. The Annual Town Meeting will be held to consider the following actions and to vote on the following resolutions:

The Town Clerk opened the meeting. On motion of Dawn Adiletta, second by Mike Alberts, it was unanimous to waive the reading of the call.

1) To elect a Moderator; On motion of Mike Alberts, second by Chandler Paquette, Ed Higgins was unanimously chosen as Moderator.

2) Mike Alberts motioned, with a second by Stu Morse the following:

To approve the proposed budget of the Town of Woodstock for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 in the amount of \$23,560,650.00 as has been recommended by the Board of Finance and to appropriate said sum to meet the recommended expenditures;

Mr. Higgins asked First Selectman Alberts to present the General Government Budget. He went over the handouts that were available and pointed out that our most recent legal opinion from Town Counsel is that our calculations for Prop 46 are appropriate as they stand. He also pointed out that we received \$324,997 more than was anticipated from the State. Board of Finance

Chairman, Mr. Dougherty pointed out that this was true, but that other anticipated grant monies were underfunded by \$306,000. Other budget changes pointed out were turnover in the Building Department with the retirement of Terry Bellman. Also the Board of Selectmen office is going from 2 full-time workers to 1 full-time and 1 part-time, and that we are planning to close town hall on Fridays.

Other questions and comments pertaining to the budget were as follows:

- Questions about surplus
- Clarification on legal opinion concerning Prop 46
- Clarification on the town hall closing on Fridays in new fiscal year
- Question about state mandates in town attorney opinion
- Clarification on arrangement with Building Official and Matt Beauregard
- Maybe we should have advisory questions on ballot, but as Mr. Dougherty pointed out, we are at the maximum under Prop 46, so if the budget is turned down, we can only decrease the budgets
- Several commented that they would like to see public involvement over the hours of operation of the town hall

Being no further discussion, Mr. Higgins reminded everyone that this Item has been adjourned to a referendum vote on Tuesday, May 15, 2018.

3) Douglas Porter moved with a second by Joseph Adiletta the following resolution:

To adopt a Capital Improvement Plan for a five-year period ending 2022-2023 as has been recommended by the Board of Finance; RESOLVED, that the Town of Woodstock's local capital improvement projects of \$7,620,872.00 and capital improvement plan as defined in Section 7-535 through 7-538, a copy of which plan is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk and available for public inspection during normal business hours, is hereby ratified and approved;

Mr. Higgins asked Mr. Alberts to address the audience on the Capital Improvement Plan. The moderator opened the floor for discussion, being none the Moderator asked for a vote and the Item was approved.

4) Chandler Paquette moved with a second by Jeff Stefanik the following:

To consider and act on a resolution approving an expenditure not to exceed \$140,000 from the Woodstock Agricultural Land Preservation and Land Acquisition Fund as the town's contribution towards the purchase price and associated costs of the development rights of approximately 129+/- acre parcel currently owned by Timothy, Wendy, Lucas and Angela Young situated on the generally northern side of Child Hill Road, in the town of Woodstock, Connecticut known as Valleyside Farm, being a portion of a certain piece or parcel shown and designated by the Woodstock Tax Assessor as Map 7280, Block 29, and Lot 09 and described at Volume 305 page 29 in the Woodstock Land Records. The town's contribution toward the purchase price will be in addition to the funding provided by the State of Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

The Moderator asked Dawn Adiletta, Chair of the Open Space Farmland Preservation Commission to address the audience on this resolution. Ms. Adiletta gave a power point presentation on Valleyside Farm, and discussed the important soils contained on the property and explained that in our Plan of Conservation and Development, agricultural land is a prime conservation objective in Woodstock. Valleyside will be the 16th farm added to the other protected areas in town. The State of Connecticut has already approved their part of this purchase. It was emphasized that the money the town is contributing for this acquisition is already in the Open Space Fund and can only be used for this purpose, but the Town Meeting has to approve which is why the town will be voting on this at referendum on May 15, 2018.

Being no further discussion, the Moderator repeated that this Item will be adjourned to a referendum vote on Tuesday May 15, 2018 from 12 noon to 8:00pm, held in conjunction with the budget referendum.

5) Mike Alberts motioned with a second by Karen Fitzpatrick the following resolution:

To authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for the State and Federal Grants; Being no discussion the Moderator called for a vote and it passed unanimously.

6) To transact such other business as may properly come before said meeting; The Moderator recognized H. Douglas Porter who made the following motion: Motion to Keep the town hall open five days a week. Mr. Higgins ruled this motion out of order as it pertains to the budget and that item was in #2 on the agenda and has been adjourned to a referendum vote on May 15, 2018. Mr. Porter and others did not think that the motion was out of order. Mr. Higgins stated that as Moderator it was his decision and that it he is ruling the motion out of order.

7) To adjourn. Motion by Karen Fitzpatrick and second by Mike Alberts to adjourn at 7:58pm passed unanimously.

**REFERENDUM RESULTS
ADJOURNED ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
AS ANNOUNCED BY THE MODERATOR
MARY PLACE
MAY 15, 2018**

Said resolutions were submitted to the voters at referendum under the headings set out below.

The Moderator announced that the question #1 and question #2 have been approved by the following vote:

“Shall the town of Woodstock approve the proposed Budget of the town of Woodstock for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, in the amount of \$ 23,560,650 as has been recommended by the Board of Finance and to appropriate said sum to meet the recommended expenditures?”

Yes: 511
No: 171

“Shall the Town of Woodstock appropriate an amount not to exceed \$140,000 from the Agricultural Land Preservation and Land Acquisition Fund as the town’s contribution toward the purchase price and associated cost of the development rights of approximately 129 acre parcel of land situated on the northern side of Child Hill Road known as Valleyside Farm?”

Yes: 589
No: 92

The referendum was held in accordance with the Notice of the meeting on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 between the hours of 12:00 Noon and 8:00 P.M.
Voter turnout was 13%

Both Motions have passed and the Resolutions are hereby adopted.

Whole number of electors on the Registry List	5,417
Whole number of electors checked as having voted in person on registry list	669
Whole number of electors checked as having voted by Absentee ballot on the Registry List is on the registry list is	6
Whole number of electors not checked on Registry List is	4,742
Whole number of votes by property owners assessed on grand list for Not less than \$1,000.00	9

/s/ Mary Place, Moderator

/s/ Heather Paquette, Ballot Clerk

/s/ Geraldine Teja, Checker
/s/ Suzanne Woodward, Registrar of Voters
/s/ Cheryl Leveille, Registrar of Voters

Attest: Judy E. Walberg, Town Clerk