

MINUTES of ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING - May 2, 2022

MINUTES of the ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING held May 2, 2022 at the Old Saybrook Middle School auditorium, Sheffield Street, Old Saybrook, Connecticut at 6:30 p.m. with approximately 18 persons attending.

First Selectman Fortuna called the meeting to order and remarked that the Annual Budget Meeting is held in accordance with the Town Charter and at its conclusion will be adjourned to a Referendum on May 10, 2022 from Noon to 8:00 p.m. at the Old Saybrook Senior High School. On a motion duly made and seconded, Michael Cronin was voted Moderator of this meeting. Moderator Cronin asked Town Clerk, Sarah V. Becker, to read the call of the meeting.

ITEM 1: To adopt the annual Budget for the Town of Old Saybrook for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$48,377,698 and to make appropriations for the schools, highways, bridges, sidewalks, library, cemeteries, fire protection, police department and all other necessary objects and purposes:

General Government:	\$ 20,904,357
Board of Education:	\$ 27,473,341

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 8, Section 4 of the Charter of the Town of Old Saybrook, and Section 7-344 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, to adjourn said Annual Budget Meeting at its conclusion and to submit the question of the adoption of said budget to vote, upon the voting machines of the Town of Old Saybrook, on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, between the hours of 12:00 noon and 8:00 p.m. Said referendum shall take place at the Old Saybrook Senior High School gymnasium, 1111 Boston Post Road, Old Saybrook, Connecticut.

The adoption of said budget, as recommended by the Board of Finance shall be placed on the voting machines of the Town of Old Saybrook in two parts, the first part being for the budget of the General Government, including the Bonded Indebtedness, in the amount of \$20,904,357 and the second part being for the budget of the Board of Education in the amount of \$27,473,341. Said questions will be placed on the voting machines under the following heading:

Question #1. SHALL THE TOWN ADOPT THE GENERAL GOVERNMENT PART OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,904,357 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITEM #1 OF THE CALL OF THE ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING OF MAY 2, 2022?

YES	NO
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Question #2. SHALL THE TOWN ADOPT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION PART OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$27,473,341 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITEM #1 OF THE CALL OF THE ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING OF MAY 2, 2022?

YES	NO
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The Moderator called on First Selectman Fortuna who gave an update on our local economy which is strong with many business projects underway. He advised that motor vehicle valuations are increasing 25% by NADA and spoke on the consequences of a State motor vehicle mill rate. Following First Selectman Fortuna’s remarks he introduced Lee Ann Palladino, Finance Director, who presented an abbreviated overview of the requested budget which is a 2.5% increase over last year.

Jan Perruccio presented the Board of Education proposed budget commenting on all phases of the request.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to adjourn ITEM 1 to Referendum on May 10, 2022 at the Old Saybrook High School from Noon to 8:00 p.m.

ITEM 2. To adopt the following resolution: In accordance with the provisions of Section 12-142 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, that the property taxes assessed and levied by the Town of Old Saybrook on the Grand List of October 1, 2021 be paid in two semi-annual installments, the first being due and payable on July 1, 2022 and the second to be due and payable on January 1, 2023 with the exception of real property and personal property tax bills under \$100.00 payable in one payment on July 1, 2022; motor vehicle taxes due and payable in one installment on July 1, 2022; and Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax bills due and payable in one installment on January 1, 2023.

Moderator Cronin noted that this Item is required by Statute. On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to ADOPT ITEM 2.

ITEM 3. To authorize and empower the Board of Selectmen to borrow such sums of money from the Town of Old Saybrook fund balances and/or from other sources as the Board may deem necessary, in anticipation of tax revenues, to pay the appropriations of the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to ADOPT ITEM 3.

ITEM 4. As allowed under the provisions of Section 12-129n of the General Statutes of Connecticut, to act upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance to provide tax relief to certain homeowners of the Town of Old Saybrook aged 65 or over, or permanently and totally disabled, under the following conditions:

- a) That the homeowner meet the requirements for age and/or disability under the specific provisions of Section (1) and (2) of Section 12-129n of the General Statutes of Connecticut.
- b) That the homeowner be a taxpayer of the Town of Old Saybrook for a period of one year next immediately preceding their receipt of tax benefits under this program.
- c) That the homeowner meet the income requirements for eligibility for tax relief under the provisions of Section 12-129b of the General Statutes of Connecticut.
- d) That the total amount of relief allowed to taxpayers under this program for the Town of Old Saybrook fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 shall not exceed the sum of \$90,000.00
- e) The relief provided under this program to a qualified taxpayer shall not exceed a amount which, when added to relief for such taxpayers, is eligible under the provisions of Section 12-129b to Section 12-129d, inclusive, or Section 12-170aa of the Connecticut General Statutes, which in the aggregate, exceed 75% of the property tax for which such taxpayers would be liable but for the benefits hereunder and under said above-referred to sections.
- f) That if deemed necessary by the Old Saybrook Tax Assessor and Tax Collector, by reason of time constraints, the property tax relief program for the tax year beginning Jul 1, 2022 may be implemented by Certificates of Correction (for the full amount of the relief) issued with respect to the installment of taxes due and payable January 1, 2023.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to ADOPT ITEM 4.

The Moderator reminded the assembly that this Annual Budget Meeting will adjourn to a budget Referendum to be held on May 10, 2022 from Noon to 8:00 p.m. in the Old Saybrook Senior High School.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah V. Becker, CCMC
TOWN CLERK