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# Annual Town Budget Meeting Minutes 05 07 2018

## MINUTES of ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING - May 7, 2018

MINUTES of Annual Budget Meeting held May 7, 2018 at the Old Saybrook Middle School Auditorium, Sheffield Street, Old Saybrook, Connecticut with approximately 40 persons attending.

Carl Fortuna, First Selectman, called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Selectman Fortuna remarked that the Annual Budget Meeting is held in accordance with the Town of Old Saybrook Charter and at the conclusion will go to Referendum on May 15, 2018, from Noon to 8:00 p.m. in the Old Saybrook Senior High School. Michael Cronin moved, seconded by Lee Ann Paladino that Grant Westerson serve as Moderator of the meeting. Moderator Westerson called on the 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, 2018 through June 30, 2019 as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$45,605,080.22 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	\$19,795,258.22
BOARD OF EDUCATION	\$25,809,822.00

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 15, 2018, 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 \$19,795,258.22 and the second part being for the budget of the Board of Education in the amount of \$25,809,822.00. 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 \$19,795,258.22 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITEM #1 OF THE CALL OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING OF MAY 7, 2018?"

YES      NO

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 \$25,809,822.00 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITEM #1 OF THE CALL OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING OF MAY 7, 2018?"

YES      NO

Moderator Westerson called on First Selectman Carl Fortuna to speak on this Item. First Selectman Fortuna addressed the assembly regarding the state of the Town of Old Saybrook which is excellent (please read Selectman Fortuna's report attached to these minutes). This year's proposed budget is historic in the fact that the Selectman's proposal is to reduce the mill rate. He then asked Lee Ann Paladino, Finance Director, to report on the financial strength, long term goals and the proposed operating budget for 2018-19. Following the General Government presentation, the Moderator called on Superintendent of Schools, Jan Perruccio, to discuss the Board of Education budget request. Superintendent Perruccio presented the Board of Education proposed budget request and reviewed the budgetary goals deliberations resulting in this 2018-19 budget. She further advised that they have been diligent in sharing information, staff and resources with other local districts where possible. They continue to be innovative pursuing the best for the students of Old Saybrook. At the conclusion there were no questions from the assembly.

(A copy of the power point presentation attached to these minutes.)

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, 2017 be paid in two semi-

annual installments, the first being due and payable on July 1, 2018 and the second to be due and payable on January 1, 2019 with the exception of real property and personal property tax bills under \$100.00 payable in one payment on July 1, 2018; motor vehicle taxes due and payable in one installment on July 1, 2018; and Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax bills due and payable in one installment on January 1, 2019.

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, 2018 to June 30, 2019.

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:

That the homeowner meet the requirements for age and/or disability under the specific provisions of Section (a) and (2) of Section 12-129n (a) of the General Statutes of Connecticut. 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. 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. That the total amount of relief allowed to taxpayers under this program for the Town of Old Saybrook fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 shall not exceed the sum of \$90,000.00. The relief provided under this program to a qualified taxpayer shall not exceed an 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. 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 July 1, 2018 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, 2019.

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

On a motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. to the May 15, 2018 Annual Budget Referendum, Old Saybrook Senior High School, 12 Noon to 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah V. Becker, CCMC  
Town Clerk