

Town of Salem
Annual Town Meeting
Salem School
May 4, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

First Selectman Ed Chmielewski called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

M/S/C: to elect Kevin Lyden as moderator for this meeting. **TJ Butcher/P. Robillard**
The motion passed.

Per Section 4.05C of the Town Charter, Linda Flugrad, CCTC, Town Clerk was appointed Clerk of the meeting, and proceeded to read the notice and warning of the meeting.

Moderator Selectman Lyden explained we have three items to vote on.

1. 10-year Capital Budget Plan.

Motion: Motion to approve the Capital Budget plan as presented. **M/S/C: T J Butcher, H. McKenney.**

Moderator Selectman Lyden called for discussion and hearing none, the motion passed with one opposition.

2. General Government Budget. Selectman Lyden explained that the budget cannot be raised at this meeting. It can be lowered by line item in the General Government Budget or by total amount for the Board of Education Budget.

First Selectman Ed Chmielewski asked for questions on Department 100.

Resident, F. Hwang, 148 Old Colchester Road, created a chart (see attached) and explained how, in her opinion, with our current significant and excessive spending and shrinking revenues, this budget is not sustainable over the long haul.

First Selectman Chmielewski asked for any additional questions on the General Government Budget. There were some who spoke in support of the budget.

3. Board of Education Budget.

Selectman Lyden asked for questions on the School budget. None were expressed.

Motion: to move the budget to referendum in the amount of General Government budget of \$4,405,508, Board of Education \$11,327,158, Capital Expenditures \$998,830, for a total budget of \$16,731,496. **M/S/C: TJ Butcher/G. Closius, carried;** however, the amount in the motion was the proposed amount presented at the Public Hearing on April 13, 2022, which was changed.

Amended Motion: to move the budget to referendum in the amount of General Government budget of \$4,398,313, Board of Education \$11,327,158, Capital Expenses \$998,830, for a total of budget of \$16,724,301. **M/S/C: TJ Butcher/G. Closius, passed with three in opposition.**

Additional Discussion: There was a lengthy discussion on the new legislation regarding the Town receiving a 5-cent surcharge on the sale of "Nips" alcohol bottles; and what would and could be done with that revenue. Incentive ideas for cleaning up the Nips litter bottles from around Town were given.

There was also discussion regarding looking into bringing a marijuana dispensary into the Town. It could be another revenue source in Town. First Selectman Chmielewski said this would be a good discussion for the boards and commissions.

Motion to Adjourn: **P. Robillard/C. Weston** at 7:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Flugrad, CCTC, Town Clerk