Town of Hampton Special Town Meeting - Minutes September 5, 2019 - 6:00 PM

On September 5, the legal voters and those qualified to vote in Town Meeting assembled at the Hampton Town Hall, 164 Main Street in Hampton, Connecticut and conducted the following business:

- 1. Call to Order: First Selectman Cahill called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
- 2. Election of Moderator: Kathy Donahue/Kathi Newcombe seconded to nominate First Selectman Allan Cahill as moderator. No other nominations were offered. Mr. Cahill was elected unanimously.
- 3. Approval of a revision to the ordinance titled "Disposition of Hampton Elementary School Budget Surplus": Bob Grindle/Dan Meade moved/seconded to approve. Moderator Cahill presented the proposed change to the ordinance wording and explained the reasons for the requested change. Doing so enables the placement of a questions requesting allocation of unexpended funds on the annual November ballot, rather than having to hold a separate referendum. He explained that the meeting would be followed by another meeting to approve the wording of the question to appear on the November ballot, as is required by Statute. Perry Matchinis, chair of the Board of Finance, explained enacting the change removes the cost of running an entirely staffed referendum. Questions were asked and addressed.

There were questions regarding the State change in the capped allowed to be returned from 1% t 2%. Moderator Cahill replied that the new wording permits the vote regardless of the policy the State has in place. The ordinance wording won't need to be changed when State caps are changed or removed. Perry Matchinis and Sally Lehoux, representing the school financial office explained that any request over \$20,000 would go to town meeting for town vote. Whether or not the surplus from the Education Budget from a fiscal year carries to a C-NR Account for purchases was asked. It does, with town approval.

Registrar of Voters, Dayna McDermott-Arriola explained that removing the word "referendum" allows the question to appear on the November ballot. While very few instances of this occurs, is a resident is not an elector then there would have to be a paper ballot in separate room with only one person needed.

The moderator, First Selectman Cahill called for the vote. Motion carried with 10 in favor and 1 abstention.

4. Adjournment: Kathy Donahue/Kathi Newcombe moved/seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Norma Clouber