

TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN

**Annual Town Budget Meeting Wednesday, May 29, 2024  
And Adjourned Referendum Wednesday, June 5, 2024**

The electors and citizens qualified to vote in the annual town meeting are hereby warned that the Annual Town Budget meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 29, 2024, at the Voluntown Elementary School, 195 Main St, in Voluntown, CT, at 7:00 pm for the following purposes.

1. To appropriate the funds necessary for the Board of Selectmen's Budget for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$2,640,706.
2. To appropriate the funds necessary for the Board of Education Budget for the fiscal year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$7,301,475.
3. To appropriate the funds necessary for the Capital Projects Budget for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$410,000.

To consider and act on the following Resolutions:

4. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN** shall approve the sale of 2 Church Street for the sale price of \$40,000 to David and Lauren Blanchette.
5. Be it resolved that the Town of Voluntown does hereby adopt the proposed amendments to the Building Code ordinance.
6. Be it resolved that the Town of Voluntown does hereby adopt the proposed amendments to the Building Permit Fee ordinance.

At their meeting held on May 21, 2024, the Board of Selectmen voted, pursuant to CGS § 7-7, that items #1-3 of the Call of the Annual Town Meeting be submitted to a referendum vote at an Adjourned Town Meeting to be held on Wednesday June 5, 2024 at the Voluntown Town Hall, 115 Main Street, in Voluntown, CT from 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM The question on the ballot label at said referendum shall read as follows:

1. SHALL THE TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN APPROVE A FY 2024-2025 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,640,706.00.
2. SHALL THE TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN APPROVE A FY 2024-2025 BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,301,475.00.
3. SHALL THE TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN APPROVE A FY 2024-2025 CAPITAL PROJECTS BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$410,000.00.

Voters approving the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen will vote " Yes" and those opposing the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen will vote "No".

Absentee ballots for the June 5, 2024, referendum shall be available from the Town Clerk during its regular business hours.

Copies of the resolutions listed above are available at the office of the Town Clerk and on the Town of Voluntown website [www.voluntown.gov](http://www.voluntown.gov).

Dated this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May 2024, at Voluntown, CT.

The meeting was called to order by Tracey Hanson with the reading of the Notice of Town Budget Meeting.

Pamela E. Theroux, Town Clerk served as clerk for the meeting.

Call for the moderator by the Clerk. Motion by Rachel Ricard to nominate Tracey Hanson as moderator, which was seconded by Ronald Millovitsch. No other nominations were made. All were in favor of Tracey Hanson serving as moderator.

The moderator asked for a motion to dispense with reading the call of the meeting again. Ronald Millovitsch made a motion to dispense with the reading of the call to the meeting again. Anthony Madeira seconded it, and all were in favor.

1. Item#1: To appropriate the funds necessary for the Board of Selectmen's Budget for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$2,640,706.

Ronald Millovitsch made a motion to accept Item #1 and Anthony Madeira seconded it. Item #1 was opened for discussion. Tracey Hanson showed a power point explaining all the budget changes. There was no discussion or questions. Ronald Millovitsch made a motion to close discussion and Anthony Madeira seconded it. All were in favor.

In accordance with section 7-7 of the CGS, the Selectmen have elected to move item #1 to a referendum vote, and the question will read, "SHALL THE TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN APPROVE A FY 2024-2025 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,640,706.00."

2. Item#2: To appropriate the funds necessary for the Board of Education Budget for the fiscal year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$7,301,475.

Erin Madeira made a motion to accept Item #2 and Ronald Millovitsch seconded it. Item #2 was opened for discussion. Kate Beauparlant, Board of Education Chair, summarized the changes in the budget. Walter Mitchell asked regarding the enrollment numbers. Adam Burrows, Superintendent, explained that enrollment is fairly steady and that they were able to keep staffing costs nearly the same because they had 3 retirements and brought in new teachers at a lower rate. Ron Millovitsch made a motion to close discussion and Walter Mitchell seconded it. All were in favor.

In accordance with section 7-7 of the CGS, the Selectmen have elected to move item #2 to a referendum vote, and the question will read, "SHALL THE TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN APPROVE A FY 2024-2025 BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,301,475.00."

3. Item #3: To appropriate the funds necessary for the Capital Projects Budget for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$410,000.

Rachel Ricard made a motion to accept Item #3 and Anthony Madeira seconded it. Item #3 was opened for discussion. Tracey Hanson showed a power point explaining what the budget included. Joseph Miller asked how much was left in the undesignated fund after this is taken out. Julie Zelinsky, Finance Director, stated that this puts us at 8% and we are recommended to have between eight and twelve percent. Jack Wesa made a motion to close discussion and Ronald Millovitsch seconded it. All were in favor.

In accordance with section 7-7 of the CGS, the Selectmen have elected to move item #2 to a referendum vote, and the question will read, "SHALL THE TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN APPROVE A FY 2024-2025 CAPITAL PROJECTS BUDGET in the amount of \$410,000.00."

4. Item #4: **BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN** shall approve the sale of 2 Church Street for the sale price of \$40,000 to David and Lauren Blanchette.

Ronald Millovitsch made a motion to accept Item #4 and Erin Madeira seconded it. Item #4 was opened for discussion. Joseph Miller made a motion to move Item 4 to referenda. Pamela Theroux, Town Clerk, explained that the item needed to be moved to referenda by a petition at least 24 hours before the meeting. He explained that it would be a nice piece of property to display the Methodist Church bell and other historical items, and that it is worth the maintenance cost to keep it. Ronald Millovitsch explained that we have spent well over \$40,000 in the past maintaining and repairing the church, we do not have enough town crew to maintain what properties we have, and we are better off getting rid of this property. Jack Wesa made a motion to close discussion and Walter Mitchell seconded it. All were in favor. Tracey Hanson called for a vote. There were 25 in favor and 4 opposed.

Item # 4 passed.

5. Item #5: Be it resolved that the Town of Voluntown does hereby adopt the proposed amendments to the Building Code ordinance.

Ronald Millovitsch made a motion to accept Item #5 and Anthony Madeira seconded it. Item #5 was opened for discussion. Tracey Hanson explained the changes. There was no further discussion. Tracey Hanson called for a vote. There were 27 in favor and 1 opposed.

Item # 5 passed.

6. Item #6: Be it resolved that the Town of Voluntown does hereby adopt the proposed amendments to the Building Permit Fee ordinance.

Ronald Millovitsch made a motion to accept Item #6 and Rachel Ricard seconded it. Item #6 was opened for discussion. Tracey Hanson explained the changes. There was no further discussion. Tracey Hanson called for a vote. There were 26 in favor and 0 opposed.

Item # 6 passes.

Ronald Millovitsch made a motion to adjourn to referenda at 7:35PM and Anthony Madeira seconded the motion.

Tracey Hanson called the meeting back to order at 8:10 PM June 5, 2024.

Pamela Theroux read the vote totals as follows:

The referendum was held on Wednesday June 5<sup>th</sup>, between the hours of 12:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M. and the Moderator announced the following votes:

1. SHALL THE TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN APPROVE A FY 2024-2025 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,640,706.00.

Number of "Yes" votes           87

Number of "No" votes           35

Item #1: Passes

2. SHALL THE TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN APPROVE A FY 2024-2025 BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,301,475.00.

Number of "Yes" votes           86

Number of "No" votes           39

Item #2: Passes

3. SHALL THE TOWN OF VOLUNTOWN APPROVE A FY 2024-2025 CAPITAL PROJECTS BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$410,000.00.

Number of "Yes" votes           94

Number of "No" votes           31

Item #3: Passes

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 P.M., June 5, 2024.

Attest:  
Pamela E. Theroux, Town Clerk