

ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING
MONDAY, May 6, 2023, 7:00 P.M.
Portland Middle School, 93 High St. Portland, CT

Town Clerk, Michael Tierney called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Thirteen residents were present, including Board of Selectman Members Ryan Curley, Robert Hetrick, Shaun Manning, Michael Pelton, & Jim Tripp, and Board of Education Member Angela Hammond. Also in attendance was Finance Director, Tom Robinson and School Superintendent, Charles Britton.

A Motion was made by Ryan Curley, seconded by Pauline Neumann to nominate Shaun Manning as Moderator. Seeing no other nominations, a Motion to close nominations was made by Ryan Curley, seconded by Jim Tripp. Shaun Manning was elected Moderator by a unanimous vote.

The Moderator read the Call of the Meeting and directed the Town Clerk to include the Return of Notice with the minutes of the meeting. Moderator Shaun Manning explained the Annual Town Budget Meeting process in accordance with the Charter. In order to increase or decrease the budget amount, at least 5% of the registered voters must be present. The number required is 342, with 6,825 registered voters in the Town of Portland.

Moderator Shaun Manning called for discussion.

Rick Sharr of 168 Middle Haddam Road spoke. He stated that the 3% overall increase/ 5% Board of Education increase is not sustainable long term. He thinks going forward we are going to have to do better. He feels that this is a very heavy burden for our taxpayers, and mentioned that we cannot continue to have increase after increase, because it will catch up to us.

Margaret Keser of 39 William Street spoke next. She mentioned that she agrees with Rick Sharr's comments. She feels that the Board of Education Budget is high, and asked why there were increases based on the number of students. She feels that the education portion of the budget is on the forefront and is too high.

Seeing no further discussion, moderator Shaun Manning noted that the Annual Town Meeting was adjourned until the budget vote on Monday May 13, 2023. Voting will take place from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Portland Middle School, at 93 High Street. Absentee ballots are available in the Town Clerk's office during regular business hours.

A Motion was made by Jim Tripp, seconded by Norm Ward to adjourn the meeting. The Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

ATTEST: _____


Michael V. Tierney, Town Clerk

Dated at Portland, Connecticut, this 7th day of May 2024

LEGAL NOTICE
Annual Town Budget Meeting and Budget Referendum
Town of Portland, Connecticut

The Annual Town Budget Meeting
will be held in person at the Portland Middle School-Cafeteria, 95 High Street
Monday, May 6, 2024 at 7:00 PM, EDT

The Budget Referendum
will be held at the Portland Middle School-Band Room, 93 High Street
Monday, May 13, 2024 from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM, EDT

Contact Town Clerk's Office for Absentee Ballots

Pursuant to Section 1201.4 of the Town of Portland Charter, the Annual Town Budget Meeting and the Budget Referendum shall be held at the above noted dates, places and times to consider and act upon the 2024-2025 General Fund Operating Budget as adopted by the Board of Selectmen at its meeting of April 3, 2024. The recommended budget for FY 2024-2025 is \$40,050,813. The recommended amounts for the major budget functions are highlighted in the following table.

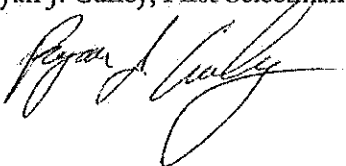
General Government	\$1,715,092
Public Safety	\$2,584,820
Public Works	\$2,617,500
Planning and Development	\$211,509
Health and Human Services	\$404,405
Portland Library	\$795,800
Employee Fringe Benefits	\$3,635,105
Risk Management	\$246,000
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT:	\$12,210,231
EDUCATION:	\$24,743,521
Debt Service	\$1,538,272
Sundry	\$1,558,789
TOTAL OTHER EXPENDITURES:	\$3,097,061
TOTAL GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET	\$40,050,813

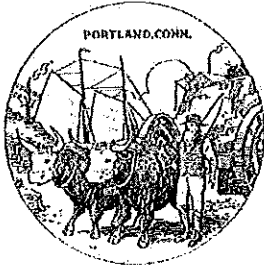
The estimated mill rate would be 34.30, an increase of 1.03 mills over the FY 2023-2024 mill rate of 33.27. The estimated mill rate is subject to adjustment based on approved State of Connecticut Budget revenues to the Town.

The budget is available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's Office located at 33 East Main Street, the Portland Public Library located at 20 Freestone Avenue, and on the Town's website www.portlandct.org

Dated at Portland, Connecticut this 15th day of April 2024

Attest: Ryan J. Curley, First Selectman





Town of Portland, Connecticut

33 East Main Street ▪ P.O. Box 71 ▪ Portland, CT 06480-0071
www.portlandct.org ▪ Phone: (860) 342-6715 ▪ Fax: (860) 342-6714
Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
Office of the First Selectman

RETURN OF NOTICE

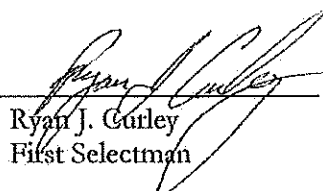
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT on April 15, 2024, I left a duplicate of the attached warning and notice of the Annual Town Budget Meeting and Budget Referendum of the Town of Portland, Connecticut with Michael V. Tierney, its Town Clerk.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I caused a copy of said warning and notice to be published in the *Rivereast News Bulletin*, a newspaper having a substantial circulation in said town on Friday, April 19, 2023 and April 26, 2024.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I caused to be set upon the signpost or other place nearest the office of the Town Clerk and at all other places and signposts designated by the Town a written copy of said warning and notice.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that all the above acts were done before the holding of said budget town meeting on Monday, May 6, 2024 and budget referendum on Monday, May 13, 2024.

Dated at Portland, Connecticut this 15th day of April in the year 2024



Ryan J. Curley
First Selectman