

TOWN OF PORTLAND, CONNECTICUT  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
PUBLIC HEARING  
September 4, 2024

First Selectman Ryan Curley called the public hearing to order at 6:30 p.m. At this hearing, any resident or taxpayer may be heard. Ryan read the legal notice into the record:

TOWN OF PORTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING LOAN FROM STATE OF CONNECTICUT DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROGRAM FOR ENGINEERING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION COSTS RELATED TO THE TOWN'S DRINKING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT A NEW WATER SOURCE FOR THE TOWN'S WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM

The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Portland, Connecticut (the "Town") shall hold a public hearing on Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at the Buck-Foreman Community Room, 265 Main Street, Portland, Connecticut at 6:30 P.M. to obtain public comments and questions regarding a proposal to appropriate \$6,000,000 for engineering, design and construction costs related to the Town's drinking water infrastructure in order to implement a new water source for the Town's water supply system (the "Project"), and to authorize the issuance of the Town's bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed \$6,000,000 to finance the appropriation, or so much thereof as may be necessary after deducting grants to be received for the Project. The bonds or notes may be in the form of project loan obligations issued to the State of Connecticut under the State's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program. Public Access also through the Zoom link A –[www.portlandct.org](http://www.portlandct.org)

A copy of the complete resolution to be voted on is available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's Office and on the Town's website at [www.portlandct.org](http://www.portlandct.org). Dated at Portland, Connecticut this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August 2024.

**RESOLUTION**  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
Town of Portland, Connecticut

RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING AN APPROPRIATION AND BOND AUTHORIZATION FOR  
ENGINEERING, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION COSTS RELATED TO THE TOWN'S  
DRINKING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT A NEW WATER  
SOURCE FOR THE TOWN'S WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen recommends that the Town of Portland (the "Town") appropriate \$6,000,000 for engineering, design and construction costs related to the Town's drinking water infrastructure in order to implement a new water source for the Town's water supply system (the "Project"). The appropriation may be spent on the construction of a new pump house and water treatment system that includes

all necessary equipment, instrumentation and controls and a water main installation from the new water source at the Portland Recreation Complex to a connection point on Gospel Lane, Strickland Street and/or Bartlett Street. In addition, the appropriation may be spent on upgrades to the existing water system in the area of the new water main connection, road repairs and upgrades to the existing well infrastructure to strengthen the overall water supply infrastructure, design and construction costs, materials, equipment, survey and testing costs, engineering costs, construction administration costs, consultant fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the Project.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen recommends that the Town finance the appropriation by issuing the Town's bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed \$6,000,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary after deducting grants to be received for the Project. The bonds or notes may be in the form of project loan obligations issued to the State of Connecticut under the State's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program. The bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The bonds or notes shall be signed in the name and on behalf of the Town by the First Selectman, Deputy First Selectman and the Director of Finance, or any two of them, by their manual or facsimile signatures. The terms, details and particulars of such bonds or notes shall be determined by the First Selectman, Deputy First Selectman and the Director of Finance, or any two of them. Said bonds or notes shall be sold by the First Selectman, Deputy First Selectman and the Director of Finance, or any two of them, at public sale or by negotiation in their discretion.

Ryan explained how the loan would be paid and other details pertinent thereto. Jim Tripp made comments regarding the low interest loan which would result in a 25% grant so it makes the project less expensive for us to move forward. In terms of the savings, right now we budget \$815,000. The actual estimate is \$276,000 and that doesn't include future increases. We've had some conversation with MDC about future plans and one of the things that has been noted to us is that right now we buy 400,000 gallons a day. They are looking for us to buy more of the water that they hold in reserve which means going up to about 650,000 gallons a day and that works out to \$481,000. He explained how the savings would actually be greater than what they are talking about.

Ryan opened the hearing for public input.

Kathy Herron, 23 Old Homestead Village, asked about the timeframe if the referendum passes. She asked when would the water be available.

Ryan said they are working on it. He signed an amendment with the hydrogeologist firm GZA a couple of weeks ago and that is good for the next phase, the production well. The drilling is anticipated to be done in October. Additional testing is required with that. The referendum vote would be a positive sign that Portland voters want the project. The goal is

to get this by January 2026. We are talking to MDC about a contract extension to get us through the interim. The well is just north of the Portland Recreational facility.

With no further comments the hearing was closed at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sharon Hoy*

Sharon Hoy, Board Clerk