

WARNING

**TOWN OF ROCHESTER, VERMONT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TO BE HELD**

MONDAY NIGHT ~ March 4, 2024 ~ 7:00 PM

The legal voters of the Town of Rochester, County of Windsor, State of Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet in the Rochester School Auditorium in said town Monday, March 4, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. to transact the following business:

Article 1. To elect a moderator for the ensuing year.

Article 2. To elect all Town Officers required by law:

1. To elect a Selectboard Member ~3-year term
2. To elect a Lister ~ 3-year term.
3. To elect a Collector of Delinquent Taxes ~ 1-year term.
4. To elect a Library Trustee ~ 5-year term.
5. To elect a Trustee of Public Funds ~ 3-year term.
6. To elect a Cemetery Commissioner ~ 5-year term

Article 3. Shall the voters authorize payment of real and personal property taxes in four (4) installments, with due dates being Thursday, August 15, 2024, Friday, November 15, 2024, Monday, February 17, 2025, and Thursday, May 15, 2025, by physical delivery to tax collector before 4:00 PM on those dates with postmarks not accepted as proof of delivery?

Article 4. Shall the voters authorize total highway and general fund expenditures of \$1,386,286.00 of which \$1,013,384.00 shall be raised by taxes?

Article 5. Shall the voters appropriate \$50,789.48 towards operating expenses of the Rochester Public Library?

Article 6. Shall the voters approve to transfer any remaining FY24 Fire Department budgeted funds to Fire Department Equipment Reserve Fund?

Article 7. Shall the voters approve to transfer any remaining FY24 Recreation Department budgeted funds to the Recreation Reserve Fund?

Article 8. Shall the town give the Selectboard general authority to enter into tax stabilization contracts with owners, lessees, bailees, or operators of commercial or industrial property, pursuant to 24 V.S.A § 2741(b)(1)?

Article 9. Shall the voters vote to appropriate the following sums as requested by these community agencies:

Central VT Council on Aging	3,000.00
Clara Martin Center	2,066.00
Green Up Vermont	100.00
Orange County Parent Child Center	250.00
Quintown Senior Center	9,849.00
SafeLine, Inc.	250.00
Tri-Valley Transport (formerly Stagecoach)	1,300.00
Vermont Rural Fire Hydrant	100.00
VNH – Visiting Nurse Association	4,800.00
White River Partnership	875.00
ATRIA f/k/a WomenSafe	250.00
Total	\$22,840.00

Article 10. Shall the voters appropriate \$20,400 to continue funding the North Star Rubbish Removal, LLC recycling program from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025?

Article 11. Shall the voters approve to transfer \$8,000 from the Reappraisal Reserve Fund to the General Fund on July 1, 2024, for the purpose of reducing taxes for the coming fiscal year?

Article 12. Shall the voters approve to transfer \$10,000 from the Cemetery Reserve Account to the General Fund to offset cemetery budgeted expenses?

Article 13. Shall the voters approve to transfer \$8,000 from the Revolving Loan Fund to the General Fund?

Article 14 can ONLY be discussed and will be voted by Australian Ballot on March 5, 2024

Article 14. Shall general obligation notes or bonds of the Town of Rochester in an amount not to exceed Three Hundred Fifty-Nine Thousand, Two Hundred and Forty-Three Dollars and Zero Cents (\$359,243.00), payable from the Town's general fund, derived from the taxation of real property for a period not to exceed thirty years, and subject to reduction by available grants-in-aid or other funding sources, be issued to finance the cost of removing and replacing the existing West Hill Road (TH-37) bridge with a bridge on a modified alignment, and associated roadway and channel work (together, the "Project")?

Article 15 Shall the Town adopt the following Declaration of Inclusion?


The Town of Rochester condemns racism and welcomes all persons, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, disability, or socioeconomic status, and wants everyone to feel safe and welcome in our community. As a town, we formally condemn all discrimination in all of its forms, commit to fair and equal treatment of everyone in our community, and will strive to ensure all of our actions, policies, and operating procedures reflect this commitment. The Town of Rochester has and will continue to be a place where individuals can live freely and express their opinions.

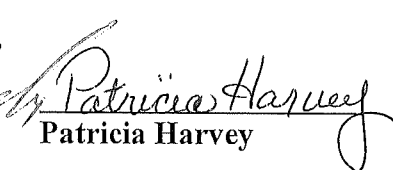
Article 16. To transact any other legal and proper business to be brought before said meeting.

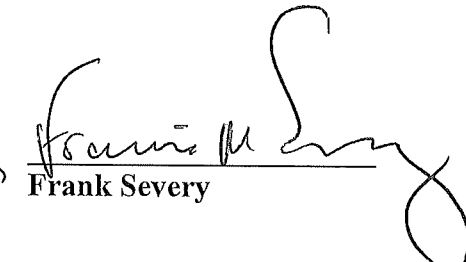
Adjournment:

Dated at Rochester, Vermont this 26 day of January 2024.

ROCHESTER SELECTBOARD


Doon Hinderyckx


Patricia Harvey


Frank Severy

Received at Rochester this 26 day of January 2024 for Recording

Attest:  Julie Smith, Rochester Town Clerk