

PUBLIC HEARING AND SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, November 11, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. – Wascott Town Hall

Public Hearing

- 1) Call to Order - Chair Chuck Youngquist called the Public Hearing to order at 10:00 a.m.
- 2) Purpose of Hearing - The Public Hearing is designated for public comments on the 2024 proposed budget. The Public Hearing does not conclude action or decide any outcome; that remains for the relevant body to do at a later time. Motions and voting are out of order.
- 3) Presentation of the Town Board's proposed 2024 Budget and Recommended 2023 Town Tax Levy - Clerk/Treasurer Atkinson presented the 2024 Proposed Budget on behalf of the Board highlighting the following –
Revenues - Town tax levy increased from \$726,887 to \$795,320 due to new debt. The State provided a supplemental shared revenue increase to replace the personal property tax. As of 2024, no longer will towns collect personal property taxes. The Town of Wascott's supplemental payment was \$45,207 in addition to the annual payment of \$15,323.
Expenditures – No new debt incurred for 2024.
The **2024 Budget is \$1,587,931** with a **Town Tax Levy of \$795,320** - which is the allowable limit.
The year-end 2023 fund balance is estimated at \$443,729. Outstanding debt at year's end (2023) is at \$164,709.
- 4) Public Comments on the Proposed 2024 Budget – As the Clerk presented the budget, the public was encouraged to ask questions during the presentation.
- 5) Adjournment of Public Hearing – A Chuck McDermott/Jan Newsome motion to adjourn at 10:31 a.m. and convene to the Special Town Meeting.

Special Town Meeting Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Jenson at 10:32 a.m.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Verification of qualified electors present at meeting – 12 resident voters; 2 non-resident.
4. Verification of public notice and approval of agenda – **A Chuck McDermott/Kim Sorensen motion to approve agenda; motion carried by a voice vote.** Clerk/Treasurer Atkinson verified there was proper public notice given.
5. Approve minutes of the Special Town Meeting of November 19, 2022 – **A Chuck McDermott/Kim Sorensen motion to approve the Special Town Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2022; motion carried by a voice vote.**
6. Review procedural rules for conduct of the Special Town Meeting

7. Specific matters for discussion and possible action by the qualified electors present:
 - a) Approve Resolution 2023-10 - Authorize the Town Board to appropriate monies for certain conservation projects, civic donations, and cemetery improvements in the 2024 budget (Stat. 60.10(3)(b) – A Jan Newsome/Chuck McDermott motion to approve the 2024 civic donations in the amount of \$9,900.
Hand Vote: Yes - 12; No - 0; Abstain - 0; motion carried.
 - b) Approve Resolution 2023-11 – Electors to Adopt the 2023 Town Tax Levy Collected in 2024 pursuant to Sec. 60.10(1)(a) of the WI Statutes – A Steve Trainor/Chuck McDermott motion approving the 2023 Town Tax Levy in the amount of \$795,320. **Hand Vote: Yes - 12; No - 0; Abstain - 0; motion carried.**
8. **A Fred Atkinson/Chuck McDermott motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 a.m; carried by a unanimous voice vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannette Atkinson
Clerk/Treasurer

Posted this 15th day of November 2023 at the Town Hall, Fire Department,
Stop-A-Sec, Backwood's Bar & Grill and the town's website – www.townofwascott.org