

NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD, CONNECTICUT  
MARCH 3, 2021

RECEIVED

FEB 22 2021

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
RIDGEFIELD CT

Electors and persons qualified to vote at Town Meetings of the Town of Ridgefield are hereby duly notified and warned that a Special Town Meeting will be held on **March 3, 2021 at 7:30 P.M.** (E.D.T.) at The Ridgefield Playhouse, 80 East Ridge, Ridgefield, Connecticut, for the following purposes:

1. Enact State Statute 7-191b "Amendments to charters to modify budget adoption dates", and to vary the Ridgefield Town Charter Sections 3-3 and 10-1(d). This variance is being requested for the FY2022 Annual Town Budget meeting only.
2. To set a new Annual Town Budget Meeting Date of, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from original date of May 3rd, 2021, allowing more time for absentee voting for the Budget Referendum on May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021. This meeting shall take place outdoors under a tent at the Ridgefield Playhouse per Covid Guidelines. This meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 shall take place from 3pm-5pm.

How to participate in March 3rd, 2021 Special Town Meeting:

- In person Attendance (100 person maximum) outside at the Ridgefield Playhouse
- Attend Virtually by registering in advance at the link:

[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_sScX5KilRxqzyaqQfgoXsg](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_sScX5KilRxqzyaqQfgoXsg)

Anyone who wishes to vote via zoom will need to call the Registrar's office at 203-431-2771 to provide his or her name, address and phone number no later than Tuesday March 2, 2021, for elector verification.

- Watch the meeting through the Town website: [www.ridgefieldct.org](http://www.ridgefieldct.org).

*Randy W. Gannon* 2/22/21



**TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD**  
Office of the First Selectman

Received

2021 MAR -5 PM 3:36

Wendy Gannon Lionetti  
Ridgefield CT Town Clerk

March 5, 2021

Wendy Gannon Lionetti  
Town Clerk

This is to affirm that the legal public notice for the Special Town Meeting of March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 appeared in *The News Times* and in *The Ridgefield Press* on Thursday February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021

*Amy Escibano*

Amy Escibano  
First Selectman's Office

The First Selectman, Rudy Marconi, called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm. This meeting was held at the Ridgefield Playhouse and via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Marconi asked all to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

R. Marconi then stated that the first item of business was to appoint a Moderator. **Bob Hebert, 85 Prospect Street, moved and Mike Rettger, 25 Fairview Avenue, seconded the motion to appoint Ed Tyrrell as Moderator for the Special Town Meeting. The “Aye” votes were unanimous and Ed Tyrrell was appointed Moderator.**

Ed Tyrrell called the meeting to order and requested a motion to appoint a secretary. **Bob Hebert moved and Andrew Neblett, Ashbee Lane, seconded the motion to appoint Wendy Gannon Lionetti, Town Clerk, secretary. The “Aye” votes were unanimous and Wendy Gannon Lionetti was appointed secretary.**

Ed Tyrrell read the legal notice of the meeting that appears at the top of this page, to consider: 1) amendments to Town Charter Sections 3-3 and 10-1(d) for the FY2022 Annual Town Meeting only; and 2) setting a new Annual Town Meeting date of April 24 at 3:00 pm, allowing more time for absentee voting for the Budget Referendum on May 11, 2021.

The Moderator then asked for a motion to approve the first item. **Sean Connelly, 550 Barrack Hill Road, moved and Andrew Neblett seconded the motion to approve amending Sections 3-3 and 10-1(d) of the Town Charter for the FY2022 Annual Town Meeting only.**

The Moderator then opened the floor for discussion, asking First Selectman Rudy Marconi to provide background for the suggested change. R. Marconi explained that this change would be for this year only and that the purpose is to allow more time for absentee voting for the budget referendum.

-Mike Rettger asked for clarification—can ballots be mailed? The answer from the Town Clerk is no, the ballots will not be mailed out to voters.

-Kirk Carr, 62 Prospect Ridge Unit D4, asked whether applications can be faxed or mailed? The Town Clerk responded no, the application cannot be faxed; and yes, it can be mailed. But the ballots will not be mailed out.

-Angela Liptack, Wilton Road East, stated she is in favor of the motion. People need extra time to vote absentee.

-Tom McManus, 5 High Ridge Road, asked whether the protocols would be the same as in an election, i.e. voter must have an excuse to vote absentee? The Town Clerk responded that yes, the voter would need an excuse to vote absentee; having an underlying condition would qualify as an illness and that would be the excuse to vote absentee instead of voting in person.

-Mike Raduazzo, 195 Peaceable Street, asked whether IDs will be checked when voting absentee and will the signature be verified on the return ballot? The Town Clerk responded that ID is not checked when submitting the application because the voter signs the form on which is an affidavit stating all information given is true and accurate under penalty of perjury. Cindy Bruno, Registrar of Voters, responded that Connecticut state law does not require a signature check.

As there were no more questions, the Moderator then called for a vote for the motion on the floor. All those in favor in person in the Ridgefield Playhouse raised their hands and the votes were counted; all those in favor via zoom raised their hands and the votes were counted. The Moderator then asked for those opposed to raise their hands. **The “Aye” votes carried, and the motion to approve amending Sections 3-3 and 10-1(d) of the Town Charter for the FY2022 Annual Town Meeting only was approved.**

The Moderator then asked for a motion to approve the second item. **Andrew Neblett moved and Tom McManus seconded the motion to set a date of April 24 at 3:00 pm for the Annual Town Meeting. The “Aye” votes were unanimous and the motion was approved.**

**Tom McManus moved and Andrew Neblett seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The “Aye” votes were unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Wendy Gannon Lionetti, Town Clerk