

**NOTICE OF A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD, CONNECTICUT
WEDNESDAY, MAY 21st, 2025 AT 7:30 PM**

4:28 PM
MAY 09 2025
Wendy Gannon Lionetti
BY TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RIDGEFIELD, CT

Notice is hereby given that a formal Special Town Meeting for residents will be held on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, at 7:30 pm in the Town Hall Large Conference Room located at 400 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877 to vote on items pertaining to the following: Proposed Fifteen-Year lease for a section of McKeon Farm to the Connecticut Chapter of American Chestnut Foundation. The Lease and supporting documents can be found on the Town Calendar section of the Town website - www.ridgefieldct.gov.



TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD
Office of the First Selectperson

RECEIVED
9:26 am
MAY 27 2025
Wendy Gannon Lionetti
BY TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RIDGEFIELD, CT

May 27, 2025

Wendy Gannon Lionetti
Town Clerk

This letter is to affirm that the legal public notice for the Special Town Meeting held on May 21, 2025, appeared in the *Ridgefield Press* on Thursday, May 15, 2025.



Amy Escribano
First Selectperson's Office

Special Town Meeting May 21, 2025 – 7:30 pm (immediately following the Board of Selectpersons Meeting)

First Selectperson Rudy Marconi called the meeting to order and asked the audience to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance, after which he requested a motion to appoint a Moderator. **Selectperson Barbara Manners moved and Selectperson Maureen Kozlark 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.**

Moderator Ed Tyrrell requested a motion to appoint a Secretary. **Selectperson Rudy Marconi moved and Selectperson Maureen Kozlark seconded the motion to appoint Jessica Green, Deputy Town Clerk, Secretary. The "Aye" votes were unanimous and Jessica Green was appointed Secretary.**

According to the Deputy Town Clerk's unofficial head count, there were 13 people in attendance (in addition to the BOS members, the Moderator, and the Secretary) at the Special Town Meeting.

Moderator Ed Tyrrell read the legal notice of the meeting that appears on page 116 of the Volume 20 STM minutes book.

The Moderator asked for a motion to approve the matter. **Selectperson Barbara Manners moved and Selectperson Sean Connelly seconded the motion to approve the Proposed Fifteen-Year Lease for a Section of McKeon Farm to the Connecticut Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation.**

Comments from those in attendance:

- James Coyle, 258 Florida Road, Chair of the Conservation Commission, shared the proposed lease would be for approximately 0.5 acres in the Lower Meadow area of McKeon Farm, near Old Stagecoach Road. The American

Chestnut Foundation is planting small test plots, of up to 100 trees over time, to develop a disease-resistant chestnut tree to eventually replace the millions of chestnut trees previously lost to blight.

- Debra Ann Franceschini, 72 Spireview Road, asked Moderator Ed Tyrrell for a reasonable accommodation for all in attendance to stand for the vote. Moderator Ed Tyrrell agreed.

Moderator Ed Tyrrell called for a vote on the motion to approve the proposed lease—the motion carried unanimously and the Proposed Fifteen-Year Lease for a Section of McKeon Farm to the Connecticut Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation was adopted.

Selectperson Maureen Kozlark moved and Mike Rettger, 25 Fairview Avenue, seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:38pm. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Green, Deputy Town Clerk