NOTICE OF A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD, CONNECTICUT
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 AT 7:30PM

Notice is hereby given that a Special Town Meeting for residents will be held on Wednesday September 20, 2023 at 7:30pm in the Town Hall located in the conference room located at 400 Main St. Ridgefield, CT 06877 to vote on the items pertaining to the following: To vote on the ordinance update regarding the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRA) one-town, one-vote resolution. See the Town calendar for details pertaining to this Special Town Meeting. It will also be streamed live on our website, www.ridgefieldct.org

Rudy Marconi, First Selectman

TOWN OF RIDGEFIELD
Office of the First Selectman

September 21, 2023

Wendy Gannon Lionetti
Town Clerk

This letter is to affirm that the legal public notices for the Special Town Meeting held on September 20, 2023, appeared in the Ridgefield press on Thursday, September 7, 2023 & September 14, 2023.

Amy Escribano
First Selectman’s Office

Special Town Meeting September 20, 2023

First Selectman Rudy Marconi called the Special Town Meeting to order at 8:05 pm in the large conference room of Town Hall. Mr. Marconi asked the audience to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first order of business was to appoint a Moderator. Selectwoman Maureen Kozlark moved and Selectman Bob Hebert seconded the motion to appoint Ed Tyrrell Moderator for the Special Town Meeting. The “Aye” votes were unanimous and Ed Tyrrell was appointed Moderator.

Moderator Ed Tyrrell called the meeting to order and requested a motion to appoint a secretary. Bob Hebert moved and Selectman Sean Connelly seconded the motion to appoint Wendy Gannon Lionetti, Town Clerk, secretary. The “Aye” votes were unanimous and Wendy Gannon Lionetti was appointed secretary.

Moderator Tyrrell read the legal notice of the meeting that appears on Page 44.

The Moderator then asked for a motion to approve Item #1. Pamme Jones, 16 Senoka Drive, moved and Sean Connelly seconded the motion to approve the proposed ordinance update regarding the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRA) one-town, one-vote resolution, which appears below.

WHEREAS, the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (hereinafter referred to as the “Authority”) was established and created in July, 1986 for the purpose of being the regional resource recovery authority for such
member municipalities which, by concurrent ordinance, adopt the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes Chapter 103b; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ridgefield (the “Town”) adopted the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes Chapter 103b by ordinance dated August 27, 1986 (as amended, the “Concurrent Ordinance”), as more particularly set forth in the Code of the Town of Ridgefield, Connecticut as Chapter 12, Article III, and thereby designated the Authority as the regional resource recovery authority for the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Concurrent Ordinance provides that the Authority shall operate with 100 voting units assigned to member municipalities in proportion to each municipality’s share of the total population of all members of the Authority, and, with certain exceptions, all actions by the Authority require the affirmative vote of at least 51% of the total voting units present and voting at a duly called meeting at which a quorum is present; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has determined that the needs of the member municipalities may be better served if each municipality has an equal say in the operation of the Authority, and has recommended that decisions of the Authority be changed to be made on a “one town, one vote” basis; and

WHEREAS, in order to implement a change to the voting structure of the Authority, all of the member municipalities must agree to the same structure.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Selectmen does hereby support a change in the voting structure of the Authority to a “one town, one vote” basis; and

RESOLVED, that the First Selectman is authorized to work collaboratively with the other member municipalities to propose revisions to the Concurrent Ordinance that would (i) provide for a “one town, one vote” basis for decisions of the Authority; (ii) establish that for routine decisions of the Authority, (A) a quorum consists of greater than fifty percent (50%) of the member municipalities and (B) actions by the Authority require the affirmative vote of greater than fifty percent (50%) of members present and voting, and (iii) a vote of greater than two-thirds (2/3) of member municipalities, without regard to a quorum, be established as necessary for material decisions of the Authority, including modification of the bylaws of the Authority, admission/termination of membership to the Authority, and such other decisions as the member municipalities may agree; and

RESOLVED, that the Concurrent Ordinance shall not be modified until such time as (i) the Board of Selectmen has affirmatively voted on an amendment thereto and (ii) all of the other member municipalities have also adopted a revised concurrent ordinance substantially similar to and consistent with the within resolution.

The Moderator then called for a vote to approve the motion. The “Aye” voted carried and the motion to approve the resolution was approved.

Pamme Jones moved and Tricia Kokas, 178 Old Branchville Road, seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 pm. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Gannon Lionetti, Town Clerk