

TOWN OF COVENTRY
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING AND NOTICE OF ADJOURNED TOWN MEETING
August 27, 2020

A Special Town Meeting was held at Veterans Auditorium, Coventry High School, August 27, 2020 at 7 P.M. (E.T.) with 56 citizens including council members, and staff in attendance.

Chairperson Julie Blanchard called to order the meeting at 7:02 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and a call for nominations from moderator. Matt O'Brien, Sr. 98 Timber Trail, nominated John French. Richard Williams, 508 Wrights Mill Rd. seconded. No other nominations were made and John French was elected as Moderator.

The Moderator read the legal notice to the meeting and stated that said Notice, signed by the Town Manager and the Town Clerk, had been posted on the Town signpost on August 11, 2020 , and that a copy had been published in The Chronicle newspaper on August 11, 2020.

MODERATOR STATE: That said notice, signed by the Town Manager and the Town Clerk, was posted on the town signpost on August 11, 2020 and copy thereof, was published in The Chronicle, a newspaper of general circulation in said town, in its issue of August 11, 2020.

MODERATOR STATE: In accordance with Section 7-6 of the general statutes of the State of Connecticut, as amended, only an elector of the town or a citizen of the United States of the age of eighteen years or more who, jointly or severally, was liable to the town for taxes assessed against him, based on an assessment of not less than \$1,000 or more on the last completed grand list of the town or who would have been so liable if not entitled to an exemption as a blind person or as a veteran or as a parent or surviving spouse of a veteran would be entitled to vote at this special town meeting.

Moderator: introduce Matt O'Brien, Sr. 98 Timber Trail to read resolution

RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE PURCHASE OF LAND AND EXCHANGE OF ASSOCIATED EASEMENTS FOR PROPERTY LOCATED OFF OF OLSEN FARM ROAD AND KNOLLWOOD DRIVE FOR OPEN SPACE AND OTHER PURPOSES AND THE CALLING OF A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING TO CONSIDER SAID PURCHASE FROM THE ESTATE OF LANCE STEWART FOR \$49,000 AND DEBTS OWED.

RESOLVED, that the Coventry Town Council recommends to a Special Town Meeting, convened pursuant to Section 9-3(a) of the Town Charter, the following question "Shall the Town of Coventry approve the purchase of land from the Estate of Lance Stewart to both satisfy debts for court ordered property clean up (approximately 4.5 acres) , and acquire approximately 7 acres of dedicated open space and associated exchange of easements as shown on a map entitled "Town of Coventry , Stewart & Town of Coventry lot line modification C-06" off of Olsen Farm and Knollwood Drive for the agreed amount of \$49,000. " The purchase shall not be made until the same has been voted by the Town at a Special Town Meeting called for such purpose.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that a SPECIAL TOWN MEETING of the Electors and Citizens qualified to vote at Town Meetings of the Town of Coventry will be held at the Veterans Auditorium, Coventry High School, 78 Ripley Hill Road, Coventry, Connecticut on August 27 2020 at 7:00 p.m. for a vote on the following question:

“Shall the Town of Coventry approve the purchase of approximately 11.5 acres of land and exchange easements associated with that land located off of Olsen Farm Road and Knollwood Drive for open space and other purposes from the Estate of Lance Stewart for \$49,000 and debt owed? “

Matt O’Brien, Sr., 98 Timber Trail made the following motion:

MOTION: I move that The Town of Coventry purchase of approximately 11.5 acres of land and exchange easements associated with that land located off Olsen Farm Road and Knollwood Drive for open space and other purposes from the Estate of Lance Stewart for \$49,000 and debt owed?
John Hand, 178 Carpenter Road seconded the motion.

John Elsesser presented a PowerPoint on the Stuart Property (attached). Discussion followed.

MODERATOR instructed audience to speak clearly their name and address. Questions & comments must be brief and in reference to the land purchase only.

- Christine Pattee, 98 Brookline Road – P&Z committee member and in favor for this purchase. Stated this is in her neighborhood and public works is a good neighbor. Looking forward to the possible walking paths.
- Matt O’Brien, 98 Timber Trail stated the money being used to purchase the property in anticipation of relocating the transfer station would be returned to the COVVRA account if this Purchase was voted down.

Discussion was closed.

Moderator put the motion “Shall the Town of Coventry approve the purchase of approximately 11.5 acres of land and exchange easements associated with that land located off of Olsen Farm Road and Knollwood Drive for open space and other purposes from the Estate of Lance Stewart for \$49,000 and debt owed? “ To a hand vote. Motion passed.

The following communication from the Town Council was received and ordered incorporated in the minutes of the Meeting: This communication is for Items 4 & 5 on the Legal Notice.

Council letter on next page

Moderator called on Matt O'Brien, Sr., 98 Timber Trail to read the following resolution:

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$1,700,000 FOR THE PLANNING, DESIGN, RENOVATION, CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE BOOTH AND DIMOCK MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,700,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE

RESOLVED:

Section 1. The sum of \$1,700,000 is appropriated by the Town of Coventry, Connecticut (the "Town") for the planning, design, renovation, construction, reconstruction, and improvements to the Booth And Dimock Memorial Library, including without limitation, for code compliance, water intrusion, roof, electrical, window replacement, and building flow and for administrative, printing, legal and financing costs related thereto, as more fully set forth in the Capital Improvement Plan of the Town of Coventry, FY '21 thru FY '25, said appropriation to be inclusive of any and all State and Federal grants-in-aid thereof (collectively, the "Project").

Section 2. To meet said appropriation \$1,700,000 bonds of the Town or so much thereof as shall be necessary for such purpose, shall be issued, maturing not later than the maximum maturity permitted by the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended from time to time (the "Connecticut General Statutes"). The bonds may be issued in one or more series as determined by the Town Manager and the Town Treasurer, and the amount of bonds of each series to be issued shall be fixed by the Town Manager and Town Treasurer, in the amount necessary to meet the Town's share of the cost of the Project determined after considering the estimated amount of State and Federal grants-in-aid of the Project, or the actual amount thereof if this is to be ascertainable, and the anticipated times of the receipt of the proceeds thereof provided that the total amount of bonds to be issued shall not be less than an amount which will provide funds sufficient with other funds available for such purpose to pay the principal of and the interest on all temporary borrowings in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of the bonds outstanding at the time of the issuance thereof, and to pay for the administrative, printing and legal and financing costs of issuance of such bonds. The bonds shall be in the denomination of \$1,000 or a whole multiple thereof, be issued in fully registered form, be executed in the name and on behalf of the Town by the facsimile or manual signatures of the Town Manager and the Town Treasurer, bear the Town seal or a facsimile thereof, be certified by a bank or trust company, which bank or trust company may be designated the registrar and transfer agent, be payable at a bank or trust company, and be approved as to their legality by Robinson & Cole LLP, Attorneys-at-Law, of Hartford, Connecticut. The bonds shall be general

obligations of the Town and each of the bonds shall recite that every requirement of law relating to its issue has been duly complied with, that such bond is within every debt and other limit prescribed by law, and that the full faith and credit of the Town are pledged to the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon. The aggregate principal amount of the bonds of each series to be issued, the annual installments of principal, redemption provisions, if any, the certifying, registrar and transfer agent and the paying agent, the date, time of issue and sale and other terms, details and particulars of such bonds, including the approval of the rate or rates of interest, shall be determined by the Town Manager and the Town Treasurer, in accordance with the Connecticut General Statutes.

Section 3. Said bonds shall be sold by the Town Manager in a competitive offering or by negotiation, in his discretion. If sold in a competitive offering, the bonds shall be sold at not less than par and accrued interest on the basis of the lowest net or true interest cost to the Town. A notice of sale or a summary thereof describing the bonds and setting forth the terms and conditions of the sale shall be published at least five days in advance of the sale in a recognized publication carrying municipal bond notices and devoted primarily to financial news and the subject of state and municipal bonds. If the bonds are sold by negotiation, provisions of the purchase agreement shall be approved by the Town Manager and the Town Treasurer.

Section 4. The Town Manager and the Town Treasurer are authorized to make temporary borrowings in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds. Notes evidencing such borrowings shall be signed by the Town Manager and the Town Treasurer, have the seal of the Town affixed, be payable at a bank or trust company designated by the Town Manager, be approved as to their legality by Robinson & Cole LLP, Attorneys-at-Law, of Hartford, Connecticut, and be certified by a bank or trust company designated by the Town Manager pursuant to Section 7-373 of the Connecticut General Statutes. They shall be issued with maturity dates which comply with the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes governing the issuance of such notes, as the same may be amended from time to time. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and each of the notes shall recite that every requirement of law relating to its issue has been duly complied with, that such note is within every debt and other limit prescribed by law, and that the full faith and credit of the Town are pledged to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon. The net interest cost on such notes, including renewals thereof, and the expense of preparing, issuing and marketing them, to the extent paid from the proceeds of such renewals or said bonds, shall be included as a cost of the Project. Upon the sale of the bonds, the proceeds thereof, to the extent required, shall be applied forthwith to the payment of the principal of and the interest on any such notes then outstanding or shall be deposited with a bank or trust company in trust for such purpose.

Section 5. The Town Manager is authorized in the name and on behalf of the Town to apply for and accept any and all Federal and State loans and/or grants-in-aid of the Project and is further authorized to expend said funds in accordance with the terms hereof and in connection therewith, to contract in the name of the Town with engineers, contractors and others.

Section 6. The Town hereby expresses its official intent pursuant to §1.150-2 of the Federal Income Tax Regulations, Title 26 (the "Regulations"), to reimburse expenditures paid sixty days prior to and any time after the date of passage of this resolution in the maximum amount and for the Project with the proceeds of bonds, notes, or other obligations ("Tax-Exempt Obligations") authorized to be issued by the Town. The Tax-Exempt Obligations shall be issued to reimburse such expenditures not later than 18 months after the later of the date of the expenditure or the substantial completion of the Project, or such later date the Regulations may authorize. The Town hereby certifies that the intention to reimburse as expressed herein is based upon its reasonable expectations as of this date. The Town Manager or his designee is authorized to pay Project expenses in accordance herewith pending the issuance of Tax-Exempt Obligations, and to amend this declaration.

Section 7. The Town Manager and the Town Treasurer are hereby authorized, on behalf of the Town, to enter into agreements or otherwise covenant for the benefit of bondholders to provide information on an annual or other periodic basis to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (the "MSRB") and to provide notices to the MSRB of material events as enumerated in Securities and Exchange Commission Exchange Act Rule 15c2-12, as amended, as may be necessary, appropriate or desirable to effect the sale of the bonds and notes authorized by this

resolution. Any agreements or representations to provide information to the MSRB made prior hereto are hereby confirmed, ratified and approved.

Section 8. The Town Manager is hereby authorized on behalf of the Town, to enter into any other agreements, instruments, documents and certificates, including tax and investment agreements, for the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this resolution.

Section 9. This resolution shall become effective upon its approval by the Town electors and persons qualified to vote in Town Meeting at a duly warned Town Meeting and Adjourned Town Meeting and Referendum to be held pursuant to Section 9-1 and Section 9-3(e) of the Town Charter.

M. Deborah Walsh, 110 Nathan Hale Road, Chairperson of the Booth & Dimock Renovation Committee introduced herself and her committee. Tim Acker, Joe Jankowski, Bill Bonnie, James Parada, John Twerdy, Dudley Brand, Margret Kahn, librarian,

Ken Bassett, architect for the Booth & Dimock Library presented the renovations (attached).
John Elsesser presented a financial presentation (attached).

Discussion was opened.

*Anita Baldwin – 348 Hickory Trail, comments attached.

*Christine Pattee – 98 Brookline Road, In favor of the project, she a bookaholic. Talked about people moving in Coventry. The senior population growing, the senior housing project. These people use the library.

Discussion was closed.

Moderator called on Matt O'Brien, Sr. 98 Timber Trail introduced and read the following resolution:

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$2,780,000 FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF ROOFS AND THE FIRE ALARM SYSTEM AT VARIOUS TOWN SCHOOLS AND THE HIGH SCHOOL/MIDDLE SCHOOL COMPLEX AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,780,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATION AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE

RESOLVED:

Section 1. The sum of \$2,780,000 is appropriated by the Town of Coventry, Connecticut (the "Town") for the replacement of roofs at Coventry High School, High School/Middle School Complex and George Hershey Robertson Elementary School and the replacement of the fire alarm system at Coventry High School, High School/Middle School Complex and Captain Nathan Hale Middle School, including without limitation, equipment, and electrical and for administrative, printing, legal and financing costs related thereto, as more fully set forth in the Capital Improvement Plan of the Town of Coventry, FY '21 thru FY '25, said appropriation to be inclusive of any and all State and Federal grants-in-aid thereof (collectively, the "Project").

Section 2. To meet said appropriation \$2,780,000 bonds of the Town or so much thereof as shall be necessary for such purpose, shall be issued, maturing not later than the maximum maturity permitted by the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended from time to time (the "Connecticut

General Statutes”). The bonds may be issued in one or more series as determined by the Town Manager and the Town Treasurer, and the amount of bonds of each series to be issued shall be fixed by the Town Manager and Town Treasurer, in the amount necessary to meet the Town’s share of the cost of the Project determined after considering the estimated amount of State and Federal grants-in-aid of the Project, or the actual amount thereof if this is to be ascertainable, and the anticipated times of the receipt of the proceeds thereof provided that the total amount of bonds to be issued shall not be less than an amount which will provide funds sufficient with other funds available for such purpose to pay the principal of and the interest on all temporary borrowings in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of the bonds outstanding at the time of the issuance thereof, and to pay for the administrative, printing and legal and financing costs of issuance of such bonds. The bonds shall be in the denomination of \$1,000 or a whole multiple thereof, be issued in fully registered form, be executed in the name and on behalf of the Town by the facsimile or manual signatures of the Town Manager and the Town Treasurer, bear the Town seal or a facsimile thereof, be certified by a bank or trust company, which bank or trust company may be designated the registrar and transfer agent, be payable at a bank or trust company, and be approved as to their legality by Robinson & Cole LLP, Attorneys-at-Law, of Hartford, Connecticut. The bonds shall be general obligations of the Town and each of the bonds shall recite that every requirement of law relating to its issue has been duly complied with, that such bond is within every debt and other limit prescribed by law, and that the full faith and credit of the Town are pledged to the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon. The aggregate principal amount of the bonds of each series to be issued, the annual installments of principal, redemption provisions, if any, the certifying, registrar and transfer agent and the paying agent, the date, time of issue and sale and other terms, details and particulars of such bonds, including the approval of the rate or rates of interest, shall be determined by the Town Manager and the Town Treasurer, in accordance with the Connecticut General Statutes.

Section 3. Said bonds shall be sold by the Town Manager in a competitive offering or by negotiation, in his discretion. If sold in a competitive offering, the bonds shall be sold at not less than par and accrued interest on the basis of the lowest net or true interest cost to the Town. A notice of sale or a summary thereof describing the bonds and setting forth the terms and conditions of the sale shall be published at least five days in advance of the sale in a recognized publication carrying municipal bond notices and devoted primarily to financial news and the subject of state and municipal bonds. If the bonds are sold by negotiation, provisions of the purchase agreement shall be approved by the Town Manager and the Town Treasurer.

Section 4. The Town Manager and the Town Treasurer are authorized to make temporary borrowings in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of said bonds. Notes evidencing such borrowings shall be signed by the Town Manager and the Town Treasurer, have the seal of the Town affixed, be payable at a bank or trust company designated by the Town Manager, be approved as to their legality by Robinson & Cole LLP, Attorneys-at-Law, of Hartford, Connecticut, and be certified by a bank or trust company designated by the Town Manager pursuant to Section 7-373 of the Connecticut General Statutes. They shall be issued with maturity dates which comply with the provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes governing the issuance of such notes, as the same may be amended from time to time. The notes shall be general obligations of the Town and each of the notes shall recite that every requirement of law relating to its issue has been duly complied with, that such note is within every debt and other limit prescribed by law, and that the full faith and credit of the Town are pledged to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon. The net interest cost on such notes, including renewals thereof, and the expense of preparing, issuing and marketing them, to the extent paid from the proceeds of such renewals or said bonds, shall be included as a cost of the Project. Upon the sale of the bonds, the proceeds thereof, to the extent required, shall be applied forthwith to the payment of the principal of and the interest on any such notes then outstanding or shall be deposited with a bank or trust company in trust for such purpose.

Section 5. The Town Manager is authorized in the name and on behalf of the Town to apply for and accept any and all Federal and State loans and/or grants-in-aid of the Project and is further authorized to expend said funds in accordance with the terms hereof and in connection therewith, to contract in the name of the Town with engineers, contractors and others.

Section 6. The Town hereby expresses its official intent pursuant to §1.150-2 of the Federal Income Tax Regulations, Title 26 (the "Regulations"), to reimburse expenditures paid sixty days prior to and any time after the

date of passage of this resolution in the maximum amount and for the Project with the proceeds of bonds, notes, or other obligations ("Tax-Exempt Obligations") authorized to be issued by the Town. The Tax-Exempt Obligations shall be issued to reimburse such expenditures not later than 18 months after the later of the date of the expenditure or the substantial completion of the Project, or such later date the Regulations may authorize. The Town hereby certifies that the intention to reimburse as expressed herein is based upon its reasonable expectations as of this date. The Town Manager or his designee is authorized to pay Project expenses in accordance herewith pending the issuance of Tax-Exempt Obligations, and to amend this declaration.

Section 7. The Town Manager and the Town Treasurer are hereby authorized, on behalf of the Town, to enter into agreements or otherwise covenant for the benefit of bondholders to provide information on an annual or other periodic basis to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (the "MSRB") and to provide notices to the MSRB of material events as enumerated in Securities and Exchange Commission Exchange Act Rule 15c2-12, as amended, as may be necessary, appropriate or desirable to effect the sale of the bonds and notes authorized by this resolution. Any agreements or representations to provide information to the MSRB made prior hereto are hereby confirmed, ratified and approved.

Section 8. The Town Manager is hereby authorized on behalf of the Town, to enter into any other agreements, instruments, documents and certificates, including tax and investment agreements, for the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this resolution.

Section 9. This resolution shall become effective upon its approval by the Town electors and persons qualified to vote in Town Meeting at a duly warned Town Meeting and Adjourned Town Meeting and Referendum to be held pursuant to Section 9-1 and Section 9-3(e) of the Town Charter.

John Elsesser gave brief presentation (attached).

Amanda Backhaus gave a brief financial presentation (attached).

No Discussion

Moderator explained that under Section 9-3(e) of the Town Charter any resolution of the Town authorizing the issuance of bonds or notes of \$100,000 or more, after approval by the Town Council, must be voted on at a referendum to be held at an Adjourned Town Meeting or to be held in conjunction with the next regular election, as determined by the Town Council.

The questions to be voted on at the Adjourned Town Meeting and Referendum on November 3, 2020 shall be as follows:

“Shall the resolution entitled ‘Resolution Appropriating \$1,700,000 For The Planning, Design, Renovation, Construction, Reconstruction And Improvements To The Booth And Dimock Memorial Library And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$1,700,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose’, as introduced and read at a Special Town Meeting held August 27, 2020, be approved?”

“Shall the resolution entitled ‘Resolution Appropriating \$2,780,000 For The Replacement Of Roofs And The Fire Alarm System At Various Town Schools And The High School/Middle School Complex And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$2,780,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose’, as introduced and read at a Special Town Meeting held August 27, 2020, be approved?”

The ballot label for each said question would read as follows:

“Shall the resolution making an appropriation of \$1,700,000 for the planning, design, renovation, construction, reconstruction and improvements to The Booth And Dimock Memorial Library, be approved? YES _____ NO _____.”

“Shall the resolution making an appropriation of \$2,780,000 for the replacement of roofs and fire alarms at various Town schools and the High School/Middle School Complex, be approved? YES _____ NO _____.”

The foregoing questions would be submitted to the legal voters of the Town for a vote by optical scan voting machine on November 3, 2020, during the hours between 6:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M. (E.T.); that the voting take place in the polling places established for voting districts #1 and #2, and that voters entitled to vote by reason of Section 7-6 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, may vote at District #1. Absentee ballots will be available at the office of the Town Clerk as provided by law. The polling places are as follows:

District 1 - G.H. Robertson School
227 Cross Street

District 2 - Coventry High School
78 Ripley Hill Rd.

MODERATOR: Order the Town Manager and Town Clerk to prepare, post and publish a proper notice with respect to the voting at said referendum to be held at an Adjourned Town Meeting.

Adjourn meeting at 8:35p.m.

Submitted by

Lori Tollmann, CMC
Coventry Town Clerk
August 31, 2020