

**TOWN OF LEBANON
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
NOVEMBER 14, 2022**

MINUTES

The special town meeting of the electors and those qualified to vote at the town meetings of the Town of Lebanon was held on Monday, November 14, 2022, at the Town Hall lower conference room, 579 Exeter Road. Audience: 8.

First Selectman Kevin Cwikla called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

First Selectman Kevin Cwikla called for the nomination of a Moderator.

Moved by Kathleen Smith, seconded by Kevin Cwikla to appoint Diane Malozzi as Moderator.

Vote called – Motion passed.

Moved by Meghan Scott, seconded by Kevin Cwikla to wave the reading of the call of the Special Town meeting dated November 14, 2022. Vote called – Motion passed unanimously.

Moderator Malozzi asked for a motion to bring the item 1 to the floor as written “Consider and act upon authorizing the expenditure of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) from the General Fund Balance for the purpose of tree removal.”

Moved by Kathleen Smith, second by Robin Chesmer to bring item 1 to the floor.

First Selectman Kevin Cwikla spoke to the question as follows: The Board of Finance and Tree Subcommittee have identified a tremendous amount of trees that are a liability to the Town. There are 1,864 trees that have been identified. We will mitigate with outside services and our own public works as much as we can.

Moderator Malozzi opened the floor for questions/comments.

Kathleen Smith asked if there is a schedule when to begin the project.

Dean Gustafson, Director Public Works stated as soon as money is available.

Meghan Scott stated that this project has been part of the Capital Planning project and Long-Term Planning Subcommittee and the Board of Selectmen.

There were no further questions/comments.

Moderator Malozzi called the question “Consider and act upon authorizing the expenditure of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) from the General Fund Balance for the purpose of tree removal.”

Vote called – Motion carried. Item passed unanimously.

Moderator Malozzi asked for a motion to bring the item 2 to the floor as written "Consider and act upon authorizing the expenditure of up to four hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$450,000.00) from the General Fund Balance for the HVAC project at the elementary school, with the expectation 59.3 percent will be reimbursed from a State grant."

Moved by Kathleen Smith, second by Kevin Cwikla to bring item 2 to the floor.

Meghan Scott, Board of Finance member, spoke to the question as follows: There is new information since the posting of the legal notice. Superintendent of Schools, Andrew Gonzalez, has communicated that the cost of the project is over \$800,000.00 based on the last quote. The Board of Education has had challenges obtaining quotes to do the work. Superintendent Gonzalez was asked if he had confidence in being able to do the grant paperwork in time for December 1. The Board of Education and Superintendent Gonzalez said they had no confidence. Given this new information, the Board of Finance perspective is this probably would not have been brought forward this evening. The Board of Finance recommends that this item be brought back when there is a more complete quote and information.

Moderator Malozzi opened the floor for questions/comments.

First Selectman Kevin Cwikla stated he cannot speak for the entire Board of Selectmen, but there was a joint meeting last week. First Selectman Cwikla stated he concurs with the Board of Finance.

There were no further questions/comments.

Moderator Malozzi called the question "Consider and act upon authorizing the expenditure of up to four hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$450,000.00) from the General Fund Balance for the HVAC project at the elementary school, with the expectation 59.3 percent will be reimbursed from a State grant."


Moderator Malozzi called the vote for those in favor signify by "aye". There were none.
Moderator Malozzi called the vote for those opposed signify by "nay". The item failed unanimously.

Moderator Malozzi stated as this is a Special Town Meeting, no additional items may be brought forward.

Moved by Kevin Cwikla, seconded by Kathleen Smith to adjourn the Special Town meeting.
Moderator Malozzi called for vote. Motion carried unanimously.

The Special Town meeting adjourned at 7:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Mary Ellen Wieczorek
Town Clerk