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**Annual Town Meeting
Town of Stafford
May 31, 2018**


TOWN CLERK

First Selectman Mary Mitta called the Annual Town Meeting to order at 7:01 pm in the Senior Center Room of the Stafford Community Center. Approximately 30 electors and those eligible to vote in town meetings were present.

First Selectman Mary Mitta welcomed the assemblage and led them in the recitation of Pledge of Allegiance.

Beth DaDalt nominated Edward Muska Moderator of the Town Meeting. Dave Walsh seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. Edward Muska was named Moderator of the Meeting.

David Walsh made a motion to waive the reading of the call of the meeting that was duly posted on May 23, 2018 in the Office of the Town Clerk, the Journal Inquirer and made available to residents upon entering the Town Meeting. Richard Hartenstein Jr. seconded the motion. With no dissension noted, Moderator Muska declared the motion adopted.

Moderator Muska presented the following resolution, approved by the Board of Selectmen at their May 21, 2018 meeting:

“BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN THAT, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-7, the Board of Selectmen hereby removes Item #1 of the call of the Town Meeting properly noticed for May 31, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Stafford Community Center, Stafford Connecticut for submission to the voters at a referendum to be held on June 7, 2018 between the hours of 12:00 noon and 8:00 pm in the Stafford Public Library, 10 Levinthal Run, Stafford, Connecticut. Persons qualified to vote in Town Meetings who are not electors shall also vote in the Stafford Public Library. Absentee Ballots will be available in the Town Clerk’s Office.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that said Resolution shall be placed upon the voting machines or the ballot under the following heading:

Question 1: Shall the Town of Stafford approve a budget in the amount of \$40,617, 086 as approved and recommended by the Board of Finance for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019?

Voters approving said Resolution will vote “YES” and those opposing said Resolution will vote “NO”.

Moderator Muska opened the floor for discussion.

First Selectman Mary Mitta noted that the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Education, and the Board of Finance have worked very hard together to come up with this budget and countless hours have gone in to presenting the taxpayers with a very responsible budget. First Selectman Mitta further stated that she is very proud of the budget, fully supports it, and hopes that everyone will support it as well.

Hearing no discussion on the budget, Moderator Muska then stated that the motion to appropriate the funds necessary to administer the Town of Stafford FY 2018/2019 budget would be revisited at the reconvened Town Meeting following the referendum on June 7, 2018.

Kathleen Walsh proposed the following motion:

“I move that the Town of Stafford set the hours of voting at referendum on June 7, 2018 with said hours to be 6:00 am to 8:00 pm.”

Beth DaDalt seconded the motion. Moderator Muska called for a voice vote and declared the motion approved.

Beth DaDalt proposed the following motion:

“I move that the Town of Stafford approve two semi-annual installments on the Town of Stafford real estate list, motor vehicle list, and personal property list of October 1, 2017, payment due July 1, 2018 and January 1, 2019. Taxes due under \$200.00 to be paid in one installment due July 1, 2018.”

Mary Mitta seconded the motion. Moderator Muska called for a voice vote and declared the motion approved.

Beth DaDalt proposed the following motion:

“I move that the Town of Stafford authorize the Tax Collector pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes 12-144c to waive the payment of any property taxes due in the amount of \$2.00 or less, due to the cost of collecting such tax (including the time expenditure required) are reasonably likely to equal or exceed the amount due.”

John Locke seconded the motion. Moderator Muska called for a voice vote and declared the motion approved.

Jane LaMorte made the following motion:

“I move that the Town of Stafford approve the Water Pollution Control Facility budget in the amount of \$1,625,481.00 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019.”

Richard Hartenstein Jr. seconded the motion. Moderator Muska called for a voice vote and declared the motion approved.

Jane LaMorte made the following motion:

“I move that the Town of Stafford appropriate the funds necessary to administer the FY 2018/2019 Water Control Facility budget as approved.”

Sue Armstrong seconded the motion. Moderator Muska called for a voice vote and declared the motion approved.

Beth DaDalt made the following motion:

“I move that the Town of Stafford approve the Service District budget in the amount of \$404,516.00 as approved and recommended by the Board of Finance for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019.”

John Locke seconded the motion. Moderator Muska called for a voice vote and declared the motion approved.

Beth DaDalt made the following motion:

“I move that the Town of Stafford appropriate the funds necessary to administer the FY 2018/2019 Service District budget as approved.”

John Locke seconded the motion. Moderator Muska called for a voice vote and declared the motion approved.

John Locke made the following motion:

“I move that the Town of Stafford approve a transfer of \$7,700.00 for FY 2017-2018 from Acct # 20-481-9350 (Transfer Agent Fees) to Acct # 20-200-4900 (Miscellaneous Services) to cover the cost of a valuation for the volunteer pension fund as recommended by the Board of Finance at their January 8, 2018 meeting.”

Beth DaDalt seconded the motion. Moderator Muska called for a voice vote and declared the motion approved.

John Locke made the following motion:

“I move that the Town of Stafford approve a transfer of \$20,000.00 for FY 2017-2018 from Acct #20-481-9350 (Transfer Agent Fees) to

Acct # 20-210-2040 (Volunteer Pension & Life) for the remaining life insurance cost and contribution to the pension fund for the volunteers as recommended by the Board of Finance at their January 1, 2018 meeting.”

Richard Hartenstein seconded the motion. Moderator Muska called for a voice vote and declared the motion approved.

Chris Frank made the following motion:

“I move that the Town of Stafford approve the appointment of David P. Szych to the Stafford Public Library Board for a term of 3 years which shall expire on November 30, 2020, as recommended by the Board of Selectmen.”

David Walsh seconded the motion. Moderator Muska called for a voice vote and declared the motion approved.

Chris Frank made the following motion:

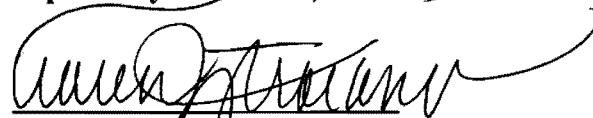
“I move that the Town of Stafford approve the appointments of William Braun, Cheryl Wilson Maynard and Christopher Paradiso to the Hyde Park Commission for four year terms, terms to expire March 23, 2022.”

Richard Hartenstein Jr. seconded the motion. Moderator Muska called for a voice vote and declared the motion approved.

There being no other business to come before the meeting, at 7:20 pm Moderator Muska stated:

“I will now adjourn this meeting to June 7, 2018, to allow for the Referendum to be held on that day at the Stafford Public Library, 10 Levinthal Run, Stafford, Connecticut between the hours of 6:00 am and 8:00 pm. This meeting will reconvene at 8:30 pm in the Veterans Room of the Warren Memorial Town Hall, at which time the Town Meeting will receive and record the vote of the referendum and consider and take action upon Item #2 of the call of the meeting.”

Respectfully submitted,



**Karen G Troiano
Town Clerk of Stafford**