

# **Town of Burlington**

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2022 7:00 PM TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM

The Special Town Meeting of electors and citizens qualified to vote in Town Meetings in the Town of Burlington, CT was called to order at 7:10 pm by First Selectman Doug Thompson. Selectmen Cheryl Byrne and Thomas Zabel were present.

Nineteen (19) voting individuals were in attendance.

## Pledge of Allegiance

First Selectman Thompson called for nominations for moderator. A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to nominated Doug Thompson as moderator; Byrnes/Zabel. A motion to close nominations was made, seconded by Byrne/Zabel. Doug Thompson was voted moderator by unanimous voice vote.

Call of the meeting was read by Mary-Jane Ugalde, Town Clerk.

Item #1: Discussion and vote on an interlocal agreement with the Town of Canton to share the services of Burlington's animal Control Officer and for the use of the Town's animal shelter as may be needed.

Tom Zabel moved that the Town of Burlington ratify and approve an interlocal agreement with the Town of Canton to share the services of Burlington's Animal Control Officer and for the use of the Town's Animal Shelter as may be needed and that the First Selectman be authorized to execute the agreement presented to the legislative town meeting. Cheryl Byrne seconded the motion.

### **Discussion**

The moderator read into the record a letter from Selectman David Goshidigian regarding Item #1 on the agenda as he was unable to attend the meeting.

Mr. Thompson gave a brief overview of the agreement with Canton that would commence on August 29, 2022 and expire on June 30, 2024. Either town can cancel the agreement with reasonable notice. The ACO would work for the Town of Canton 9 hours a week. In exchange Canton will provide the ACO a vehicle and \$19,000 to Burlington annually, with a 2.5% increase on July 1, 2023. This amount covers Canton's share of employee benefits, payroll taxes and workmen's compensation. If the ACO is

working more than an average of 9 hours a week the towns would negotiate in good faith an equitable adjustment. Canton will have the use of the animal shelter while Burlington will be responsible for the maintenance of the building. The Town of Canton will supply a vehicle to the ACO for use in both Burlington and Canton and cover insurance on the vehicle, The ACO will be allowed to take the vehicle home but use only for ACO calls and commuting to the office is allowed. The State has indicated they would like to regionalize certain services. This voluntary regionalization saves money over stand-alone services, but also demonstrates local communities can combine municipal services that work for our perspective towns. The ACO will have the support of the police departments of both towns.

#### **Questions & Comments**

Amanda Pacheco	79 Hunter's Crossing
Lynn Ierardi	46 Taine Mountain Road
Matt Cassina	27 Partridge Lane
Jeanne Small	42 Taine Mountain Road
Mark lerardi	46 Taine Mountain Road
Drew Meskun	15 Partridge Lane
JP Parente	39 West Chippen Hill Road
Jim Hunt	4 Rabbit Trail
Katherine Wood	35 Smith Lane
Dan Martin	25 Punch Brook Road
Officer Tom Null	

Item #1 passed by unanimous voice vote.

# Item #2: Discussion and vote on a resolution to authorize the Board of Selectmen to act upon and enter into interlocal agreements in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.

Tom Zabel moved to accept the resolution that the legislative town meeting of the Town of Burlington authorizes the Board of Selectmen to approve and act upon any interlocal agreement with one or more other municipalities in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 in accordance with section 7-339c (b) of the Connecticut General Statutes. This authorization shall terminate on June 3, 2024 unless extended by a subsequent legislative town meeting. Cheryl Byrne seconded the motion.

#### **Discussion**

Mr. Thompson and the selectman members gave a brief overview of the reasoning behind the resolution and the \$250,000 figure. The Town of Burlington has an agreement with the State Police for \$180,000 which is the main reason for the \$250,000 cap. This resolution would be reviewed and voted on at the Annual Town Budget Meeting yearly and can be voted down. To bring all interlocal agreements to town meeting would be cumbersome. All interlocal agreements will be discussed in an open forum at Board of Selectmen meetings. Board of Selectman meetings have two "citizen comments" on the agenda: one at the beginning of the meeting and one at the end. This allows

attendees at the meeting to comment or ask questions based on what was discussed during the meeting. Board of Selectmen meetings are being held in a Hybrid fashion. Residents can either come in person or join the meeting via Zoom. All meeting recordings are posted on the town's website along with the minutes.

**Questions & Comments** 

Lynn Ierardi	46 Taine Mountain Road
Jim Hunt	4 Rabbit Trail
Drew Meskun	15 Partridge Lane
Jeanne Small	42 Taine Mountain Road
Matt Cassina	27 Partridge Lane
JP Parente	39 W Chippen Hill Road

The resolution passed by voice vote.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Zabel, seconded by Byrne. The meeting was adjourned at 8:26pm.

Respectfully submitted, Mary-Jane Ugalde, Town Clerk