

VOTE TAKEN AT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING HELD JUNE 21, 2023

The meeting was officially called to order by Moderator Dana Altobelli at 7:50 p.m. with 286 people in attendance. The Constable's Return of the Warrant was read by Town Clerk Ellen Sheehan. Melinda Horrigan and Andrew Storm were sworn in as tellers.

The following non-resident was given permission to address town meeting when appropriate: Town Counsel, Brian Riley.

An affirmative vote was taken at this time to accept the provisions of MGL Chapter 39, Section 15, which allows the Moderator to dispense with a count in matters requiring a two-thirds vote by statute, where the vote is unanimous or clearly overwhelming at this Special Town Meeting.

Resident Leeann Lamsa read the following article, which was presented by a Citizens' Petition:

Article 1. To see if the Town will vote to rescind, repeal and revoke the authority to demolish the property located at 3 Bacon Street (the former Town Hall) which was given to the Select Board under Article 36 of the 2020 Annual Town Meeting, and to reinstate the prior purpose of the property, which was to be conveyed subject to a historic preservation restriction, or act in relation thereto.

A motion was made to Amend Article 1 as follows:

Conveyance of said property to any company, group or person must include a demonstrated source(s) of funding to complete the project. That funding source must include but not be limited to the following:

- 1. Binding letter of credit from a bank or loan originator.**
- 2. Legal binding documents from any company, organization or individuals for any gifts of cash, labor or materials to complete the project.**
- 3. Demonstrated ability to fully fund the ongoing costs of the building once completed without any Town of Westminster taxpayer funds.**

The amendment does not pass.

A Motion was made, seconded and passed in favor of voting on the article by secret ballot. The number of votes to use a secret ballot were:

Yes – 141

No -- 90

The votes taken for Article 1 were as follows:

YES: 148

NO: 126

TOTAL VOTES: 274

Two thirds vote (183) was required and necessary for this article to pass as per MGL Chapter 40, Section 15A; therefore, the MOTION DID NOT PASS.

The special town meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen M. Sheehan, CMMC
Westminster Town Clerk