

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 at 7:15 PM
Portland High School Media Center – 95 High Street

Town Clerk Michael Tierney called the meeting to order at 7:15 P.M. Fifty one electors were present, including Board of Selectman Ryan Curley, John Dillon, Michael Hernandez, Shaun Manning, Michael Pelton & Jim Tripp. Board of Education members Tim Lavoy, Dave Murphy, Kimberly Nagy-Maruschock, Laurel Steinhauer & Meg Scata were present. Also present were Superintendent Charles Britton, Assistant to the Superintendent Stephanie Fragola, Public Works Director Ryan O'Halpin, and Finance Director Tom Robinson.

A motion was made by Ryan Curley, seconded by Tim Lavoy, to nominate Shaun Manning as Moderator. Seeing no other nominations, a motion to close nominations was made by Ryan Curley, seconded by John Dillon. Shaun Manning was elected moderator by a unanimous vote.

Moderator Manning read the Call of the Meeting and instructed the Clerk to record the Call of the Meeting as published in the Rivereast News Bulletin on Friday June 7, 2024, and the Return of Notice, along with the minutes of the meeting.



Town of Portland, Connecticut

33 East Main Street ▪ P.O. Box 71 ▪ Portland, CT 06480-0071
www.portlandct.org ▪ Phone: (860) 342-6715 ▪ Fax: (860) 342-6714
Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
Office of the First Selectman

LEGAL NOTICE of SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 at 7:15 P.M.


Portland High School Media Center, 95 High Street, Portland, CT 06480

The electors and those persons eligible to vote in town meetings of the Town of Portland, Connecticut, are hereby warned and notified that pursuant to Chapter V, Section 503(i) of the Town Charter, a Special Town Meeting will be held on June 18, 2024 at 7:15 P.M. in the Portland High School Media Center, 95 High Street, Portland, CT for the following purpose as it pertains to dewatering Jobs Pond of current flooding conditions:

RESOLVED the Board of Selectmen hereby authorizes Ryan J. Curley, First Selectman, to execute and file such application with the USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service under the authority of the Emergency Watershed Protection, to execute any amendments, decision, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Portland; and be it further

RESOLVED the Board of Selectmen hereby authorizes Ryan J. Curley, First Selectman, to execute and file such application with the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, to execute any amendments, decision, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Portland.

A copy of the complete resolution to be voted on is available for public inspection in the Town Clerk's Office and on the Town's website at www.portlandct.org. Dated this 6th day of June 2024.

Attest:  Ryan J. Curley, First Selectman



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RETURN OF NOTICE

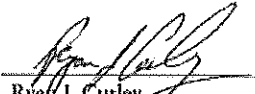
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT on June 6, 2024, I left a duplicate of the attached warning and notice of the Special Town Meeting of the Town of Portland, Connecticut with Michael V. Tierney, its Town Clerk.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I caused a copy of said warning and notice to be published in the RIVEREAST NEWS BULLETIN, a newspaper having a substantial circulation in said town on Friday June 7, 2024.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I caused to be set upon the signpost or other place nearest the office of the Town Clerk and at all other places and signposts designated by the Town a written copy of said warning and notice.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that all the above acts were done before the holding of said Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, June 18, 2024 at 7:15 PM (Federal and State – Jobs Pond).

Dated at Portland, Connecticut this 6th day of June in the year 2024


Ryan J. Curley
First Selectman

A motion was made by Jim Tripp, seconded by Meg Scata to introduce the Resolution entitled “FEDERAL AND STATE GRANTS – JOBS POND” and to wave the reading of the following resolution.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING RESOLUTION

Town of Portland, Connecticut

June 18, 2024

FEDERAL AND STATE GRANTS – JOBS POND

WHEREAS, the Town of Portland has insufficient funding or other resources available to provide adequate relief from applicable hazards and have thereby requested Federal assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Services (“NRCS”) under the provisions of section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1950, Public Law 81-516 or section 403 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978, Public Law 95-334, to restore damages sustained in Middlesex County by ongoing excessive rainwater flooding properties along Jobs Pond, specifically Jobs Gate 1, Jobs Gate 2 and Gate 3 on April 4, 2024; and

WHEREAS, this work is needed to safeguard lives and property from an imminent hazard of flooding basements damaging home mechanical systems such as heating furnaces, hot water tanks, plumbing and septic tanks. Immediate relief would require removal of water from the Pond; and

WHEREAS, the project objective is the dewatering of Jobs Pond and pipeline construction in an effort to relieve flooding; and

WHEREAS, the NRCS will provide technical and financial assistance to the Town of Portland for the project for implementation of recovery measures, that if left undone, pose a risk to life and/or property; and

WHEREAS, NRCS will pay up to 75% of the eligible construction costs and the Sponsor (the "Town") is required to contribute a 25% match; and

WHEREAS, the Town anticipates to receive a grant from the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to cover the 25% match; and

WHEREAS, the total estimated project budget is \$760,000 of which the Federal share is \$572,500 and the Non-Federal (State of CT) share is \$187,500; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Portland Town Charter, Chapter V, Section 503(i), this matter is subject to approval at a Special Town Meeting of which was held on June 18, 2024 at 7:15 PM.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Selectmen hereby authorizes Ryan J. Curley, First Selectman, to execute and file such application with the USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service under the authority of the Emergency Watershed Protection, to execute any amendments, decision, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Portland; and be it further

RESOLVED the Board of Selectmen hereby authorizes Ryan J. Curley, First Selectman, to execute and file such application with the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, to execute any amendments, decision, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Portland.

Moderator Shaun Manning called for discussion. There were two comments:

(1) Ryan Curley of 795 Glastonbury Turnpike spoke in favor of the resolution, stating that the town has received two grants covering 100% of this project. He further stated that there is no cost to the town, as this resolution is allowing him to sign the contract. He thanked the USDA for 75% of the funding. He also thanked Governor Ned Lamont, State Senator Norm Needleman, and State Representative Christie Carpino for their assistance getting the remaining 25% funded through the State Bonding Commission.

(2) Jeanne Bishop of 18 Jobs Gate 1 spoke in favor of the resolution. She wanted to thank everyone who worked with them on this issue, including US Senator Richard Blumenthal who helped tremendously.

Ryan Curley called for a paper ballot vote on the Resolution, seconded by John Dillon. The vote was counted by the Moderator and the Clerk, and the result were: Yes- 48; No- 1; and 0 abstentions. The Motion carried.

A motion was made by Tim Lavoy, seconded by Michael Pelton to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 P.M.

ATTEST 

Michael V. Tierney, Portland Town Clerk

Dated at Portland, Connecticut, this 20th day of June, 2024