

## Important info regarding the Annual Town Budget Meeting this Friday, May 21st

Friends and neighbors,

The Annual Budget meeting this Friday will be conducted as a "hybrid" meeting. That means attendees have two options to participate – in person in the large meeting room at the town hall, or via the Zoom virtual meeting platform.

This decision was not an easy one. Our meeting comes in the midst of easing of many of the restrictions we have all been living with for the past 16 months, and we received feedback that not everyone is ready to attend in-person meetings yet. These hybrid meetings are new to all of us, but we believe it is a positive effort to get the widest participation as possible in town government. Most importantly, we ask for your patience as we are all learning how to do this together.

This communication details some important information and tips in order to conduct a smooth and productive meeting.

Please read all of these instructions thoroughly so you understand the flow for the evening.

## **General guidance for all attendees**

- In order to vote, attendees must be either in person or via Zoom. "One-tap mobile" is unavailable.
- Eligible voters are those who are either:
  - a) a registered voter in the town of Kent or;
  - b) a property owner in the town of Kent whose property is assessed at more than \$1,000.00 on the Grand List as of October 1st, 2020.
- ID will be required in order to be eligible to vote.
  - Acceptable forms of identification:
    - Driver's license
    - Social security card
    - Any document that includes:
      - your name and signature; or
        - name and address; or
        - name and photograph.
    - examples can be found at the State of CT voter ID website.

## **Guidance for attending In-Person**

- Pursuant to Governor's Executive Order 12, all attendees must wear a mask and be sensitive to social distancing.
- Please have your ID ready to present when entering the building.
- The room will be set up with tables and chairs in order to accommodate the audio/visual equipment we are utilizing for the hybrid meeting.

## **Guidance for attending via Zoom**

- The Zoom link for the meeting will be active one hour before the start of the meeting, beginning at 6:00p. This is in order for the Registrars of Voters (ROVs) to verify attendees' voter eligibility.
- Please log in as early as possible so we can get everyone checked in.
- If more than one resident in a household is eligible to vote, they must be logged into the Zoom meeting with separate devices. **Only one poll vote is allowed per device**.
- Devices must have video and audio for voter verification. Information on how to join a Zoom meeting can be found on the Zoom website.
- Process for voter verification:
  - a) When you click the link or log into the Zoom meeting, you will be placed in a "waiting room". The ROVs will admit attendees one at a time into the meeting to verify them. Please be patient and be prepared to wait.
  - b) Once you have been admitted, the ROVs will ask you to present identification for voter verification. Please have your ID ready to present on your video to the ROVs.
- To vote via Zoom:
  - To those who are voting remotely, by doing so the Town of Kent is accepting your representation that the person voting is who they state they are, and by the act of voting, the voter is making that express representation.
  - At the end of each motion, the moderator will announce how the vote will be taken.
  - If necessary, Zoom attendees may be asked to vote via a Zoom poll. All questions have only two options: "yes" or "no". Click on your choice and click "submit." It's that easy!
  - For each motion, the ROVs will report the Zoom results to the moderator. The moderation will then announce combined final results.

If you have any questions, please call Town Clerk Darlene Brady at 860.927.3433 or townclerk@townofkentct.org.

Zoom meeting information:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88363374191?pwd=SUFHZVovVjBaN0pBRmY3YzdZSjVNQT09 Zoom meeting ID: 883 6337 4191 Passcode: 077285

Link to Annual Budget Meeting Agenda and budget document: https://www.townofkentct.org/home/news/annual-budget-town-meeting-friday-may-21st-700pm

visit our website: www.townofkentct.org

