

BUDGET DISCUSSION - CANDIDATES NIGHT

Doors open 6:30 PM
Monday, February 24, 2020
Hartford High School Auditorium
37 Highland Ave
White River Junction, VT 05001

*with a special performance at 6:45pm by the
Hartford High School World Drumming Ensemble*

Call to Order & Ground Rules Review (7:00 PM) by Chuck Wooster, Town Moderator

Town Budget (7:05PM) by Brannon Godfrey, Town Manager

School Budget (7:45PM) by Russ North, School Board Member

The 35 minutes allotted for the budget can consist entirely of presentation, or can be split between presentation and questions about specific budget items. For example, if the school takes 15 minutes to present the budget the moderator will entertain up to 20 minutes of questions specific to that budget. These questions will be answered by the presenter only. Questions of a general or policy nature will be postponed to the general Q&A session.

Candidates to present themselves to the Citizens of the Town (8:25 PM)

Moderator will draw names to determine the order of candidates within each group for contested races. As their name is called, each candidate will come up to the stage, introduce themselves in a speech of up to 4 minutes, and then sit down in a chair on stage so they will all be there to answer questions from the audience during the questions and answer period.

2 Year Candidate for School Board	2 Year Candidate for Select Board
Nancy Russell	Lannie J. Collins
	Joe Major
	Sandy Mariotti
	Joan Ponzoni
	Kim Souza
3 Year Candidate for School Board	3 Year Candidates for Select Board
Peter Merrill	Alicia Barrow
	Richard "Dick" Grassi
Town Moderator	Town Treasurer
Chuck Wooster	John J. Clerkin

Open Question and Answer Period (9:20 PM)

Close Meeting (10:15PM)

Continues until no more questions or less than 1/3 of original audience or 10:15PM

Guidelines for the Question and Answer Period

1. Budget presenter(s) and any School Board or Selectboard member who will be answering budget questions should join candidates on the stage so that everyone will be easily seen and heard on the television broadcast.
2. Each questioner will have a 60 second time limit in which to pose a question directed toward one of these three categories: the town budget, the school budget, or to a specific candidate. If the question asker does not specify, the Moderator chooses primary responder.
3. Budget Questions will be answered by sitting members of the board or their designee, up to 2 minutes for the primary answer. Other members of the board wishing to address the question will be granted 30 seconds. These respondents should be on stage so that they can be easily seen and heard on the television broadcast. Candidates wishing to answer the question as well will be allowed 30 seconds (note: a board member who is also a candidate can't double-dip and get a full minute).
4. Candidate Questions will be answered by the candidate to whom the question is directed, who will have 60 seconds to answer. Other candidates for the same board will have 30 seconds to answer.
5. Questioners will not be allowed a second question until everyone's first question has been asked.
6. After all members of the public have asked their first question, the Moderator shall ask if anyone on stage has a question they wish to pose under the same rules and format as the public. After everyone on stage has had an opportunity to ask a question, the second round of questions by the public will begin. When that is exhausted, the moderator will return to questions from the stage and continue to alternate between the public and the stage until the conclusion of the meeting.