

Question #1

State question- information provided in a separate publication by the State of Connecticut.

2022 Bond Referendum Question

The explanatory text which follows is intended to specify the intent and purpose of the following local question which has been approved by the Board of Directors and will be voted on at a referendum to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2022. The ballot label for said question will read as follows:

Question #2

"Shall the Town of Manchester appropriate \$39,000,000 to capital accounts for the 2022-2023 fiscal year budget for the construction of a new main branch of the Manchester Public Library at 1041 Main Street and authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds of the Town or notes in anticipation of such bonds in an amount not to exceed \$39,000,000, or so much as may be necessary after deducting grants to be received for the project, to finance the appropriation?

Yes ____ No ____ "

The following concise explanatory text has been prepared by the Town Clerk pursuant to Sec. 9-369b(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes and is intended to not advocate either the approval or disapproval of the referendum question.

The Board of Directors has approved placing a referendum question before the voters of the Town on November 8, 2022 to approve or disapprove an appropriation of \$39,000,000 and a bond authorization, in an amount not to exceed \$39,000,000, to pay for the following project:

Construction of a New Main Branch of the Manchester Public Library at 1041 Main Street

The appropriation may be expended for site acquisition and improvements, design and construction costs, relocation and moving costs, building demolition, inspection and surveying costs, renovations to the existing Mary Cheney Library to accommodate its installation and upgrades, materials, furniture, fixtures and equipment, professional fees, and for administrative, printing, legal and financing costs and other costs related to the Project. The appropriation shall include any federal, state, or other grants-in-aid and other funds received for the Project. The Board of Directors shall determine the scope of the Project if funds are insufficient to complete all components of any of the Project, and the entire appropriation authorized hereby may be spent on the Project as so reduced or modified.

2022 Charter Revision Referendum Questions

On the November 8, 2022 election ballot, there will be four referendum questions regarding the Manchester Town Charter. The Town Charter defines the form of government for the town and sets out the roles and responsibilities of most elected and appointed town officials. The Charter also codifies the basic framework for how government is conducted, such as the processes for adopting ordinances, the town budget and the identification and operation of the various departments of the town government. Periodically, communities update their charters to reflect changes in the way the business of government is conducted, to reassign roles and responsibilities or to clarify certain provisions. This process is called Charter Revision and may result in minor technical and administrative changes as well as substantive changes to the structure of the local government.

In April 2021, the Manchester Board of Directors adopted a resolution establishing a Charter

Revision Commission. Over the course of more than a year, the Charter Revision Commission reviewed numerous proposed amendments to the Town Charter. On August 8, 2022, the Board of Directors approved the Final Report of the Charter Revision Commission and the four charter revision questions which will appear on the November 8, 2022 ballot. The following is an explanation of each of the four questions.

Question #3.

"Shall the Town of Manchester amend the Town Charter to make certain technical and administrative changes?" Yes ____ No ____

Explanation: Approval of this question would make the following amendments to the Town Charter: Section 5 would be amended to provide specific milestone dates which need to be adhered to in the preparation and adoption of the Town’s annual budget. Section 18-1 would be amended to increase the Town Attorney’s authority to unilaterally settle claims up to \$10,000; settle claims between \$10,000 and \$20,000 with the General Manager’s approval and settle claims in excess of \$20,000 with the Board of Directors approval. Section 2-4 would be amended to align consistency with state statutes allowing the Board of Directors to establish additional ethical standards of conduct by ordinance. The title of General Manager would be deleted and replaced with the title of Town Manager throughout the Town Charter. Section 2-12 would be amended to establish the salary of the Town Clerk not later than July 1 of the year in which the Town Clerk is elected. Section 2-1 would be amended to reflect that the terms of office of the Town Clerk and the Registrar of Voters are 4-year terms. Section 2-14 would be amended to provide for an increase in the number of Justices of the Peace from 15 to 45. The Town Charter would be revised to incorporate where appropriate gender-neutral pronouns in official titles. Section 2-2 would be amended to

encourage appointments to boards and commissions that reflect racial equity and gender identity. Section 3-5 would be amended to provide that a vacancy in the position of Chairman of the Board of Directors (the Mayor) would be filled by the Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors (the Deputy Mayor).

Sections 2-2, 14 and 15 of the Town Charter would be amended to provide that the Advisory Recreational Parks Commission and Advisory Board of Health would be continued in the form of an ordinance. Section 3-1 would be amended to provide that the Board of Directors shall have the authority to establish, delete or alter departments and divisions comprising the internal organizational structure of the Town. Section 2-2 would be amended to change the Board of Tax Review to the Board of Assessment Appeals.

Question #4.

“Shall the Town of Manchester amend section 3-4 of the Town Charter to provide for the direct election of the mayor?” Yes ____ No ____

Explanation: Approval of this question would provide that at each biennial election of the Town’s Board of Directors, the position of Mayor shall be separately determined among candidates running for that office, separate from the candidates running for the eight members of the Board of Directors. The candidate for Mayor receiving the highest vote total among Mayoral candidates shall be Mayor as well as the ninth member of the Board of Directors. The unsuccessful Mayoral candidates shall have their vote totals for Mayor included in the compilation and determination of the other eight members of the Board of Directors.

Question #5.

“Shall the Town of Manchester amend the Town Charter to eliminate the residency requirement for the Superintendent of Schools, Chief of Police, Fire Chief, Director of Public Works and the Superintendent of the Water and Sewer Department?” Yes___ No___

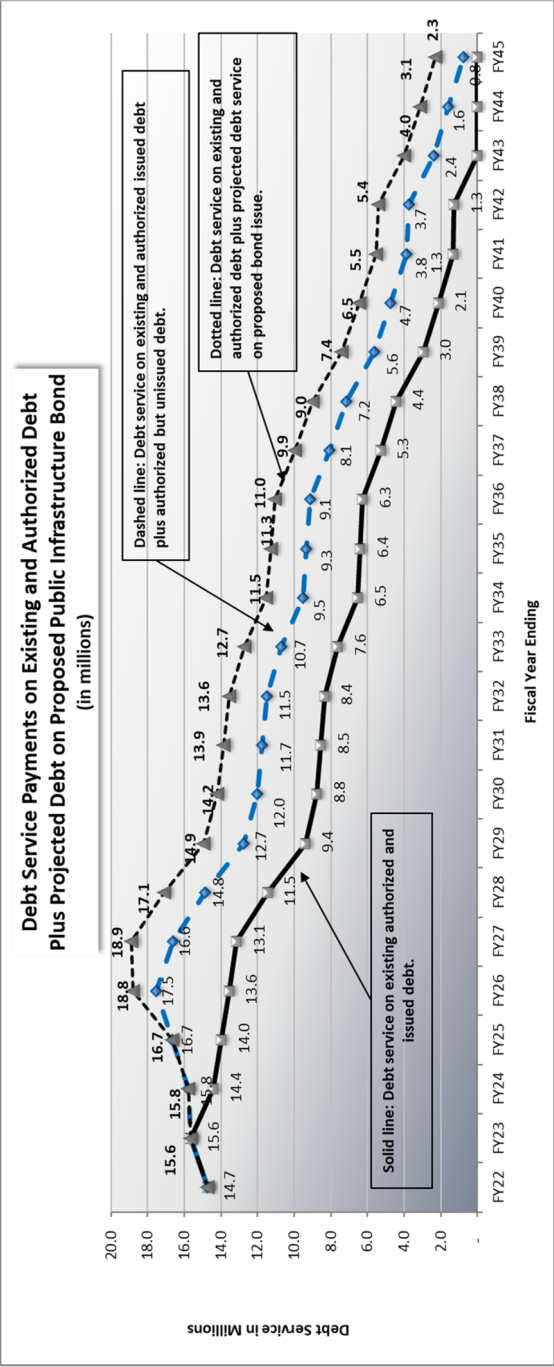
Explanation: Approval of this question would result in a residency requirement no longer being necessary to hold the positions of Superintendent of Schools, Chief of Police, Fire Chief, Director of Public Works and the Superintendent of the Water and Sewer Department in the Town of Manchester.

Question #6.

“Shall the membership of the Planning and Zoning Commission be increased to 7 members upon the effective date of any approval by the voters of this proposed Charter change and to 9 members on November 17, 2025?” Yes___ No___

Explanation: Approval of this question would increase the membership on the Planning and Zoning Commission from 5 members to 7 members immediately and from 7 members to 9 members on November 17, 2025.

The Referendum will be held on Election Day
Tuesday, November 8, 2022
Between the hours of 6:00 AM and 8:00 PM



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Manchester, CT 06040

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*Explanatory Text
for Referendum Question on
New Library Construction
and Charter Revision*

November 8, 2022