

11/06/1990

GENERAL ELECTION

(10,722 REG VOTERS)

71%

Shall an Act, passed at the 1990 session of the general assembly, entitled 'An Act authorizing the town of westerly to finance the acquisition of the **Pond View Country Club** nine hole **golf course** and to issue not more than \$2,200,000 bonds and/or notes therefor' be approved?

Approve – 2,867  
**Reject – 3,160**

Shall an Act, passed at the 1990 session of the general assembly, entitled 'An Act authorizing the Town of Westerly to finance the acquisition of certain real property known as the **Felicetti** property and to issue not more than \$250,000 bonds and/or notes therefor' be approved?

Approve – 1,423  
**Reject – 4,143**

Shall an Act, passed at the 1990 session of the general assembly entitled 'An Act authorizing the Town of Westerly to finance the costs associated with the **closure of the Town's landfill** and to issue not more than \$600,000 bonds and/or notes therefor' be approved?

**Approve – 3,426**  
Reject – 2,266

Shall an Act, passed at the 1990 session of the general assembly, entitled 'An Act authorizing the Town of Westerly to finance the acquisition of the **Westerly Savings and Loan building for municipal purposes** and to issue not more than \$650,000 bonds and/or notes therefor' be approved?

Approve – 1,380  
**Reject – 4,160**

Shall an Act, passed at the 1990 session of the general assembly, entitled 'An Act authorizing the Town of Westerly to finance the renovation and improvement of the Westerly **public soccer field** and to issue not more than \$250,000 bonds and/or notes therefor' be approved?

**Approve – 3,027**  
Reject – 2,750

Shall an act passed by the general assembly at its January 1990 session, entitled 'An Act relating to Zoning Ordinances in the Town of Westerly' (which allows the **Town Manager to appoint the Zoning Inspector**), be approved?

**Approve – 2,856**  
Reject – 2,808

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3/19/1991

LOCAL REFERENDA

(10,732 REG VOTERS)

25.20%

Shall an act passed at the 1991 Session of the general assembly entitled 'An act authorizing the Town of Westerly to Finance the acquisition of certain land, buildings and improvements thereon located at Ward Avenue, Park Avenue and Linden Street in the Town of Westerly to be used for school purposes and/or recreational purposes and/or municipal offices and to issue not more than \$625,000 bonds and notes therefor' be approved?

Approve – 1,418  
Reject – 1,286

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5/14/1991

FISCAL AFFAIRS REFERENDUM (10,742 REG VOTERS)

23.65%

Shall the Town of Westerly reduce in the FY 1991-1992 \$419,326.00 from the School Department budget, fund #105 – Dept. 2200?

Approve – 1,343  
Reject – 1,197

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5/14/1992

FISCAL AFFAIRS REFERENDUM (

30.31%

Shall the Town of Westerly increase the following account as listed in the FY 1992-93 budget adopted by the Town Council April 15, 1992? Department #1911 Capital Improvements School from \$78,700 to \$508,700

Approve – 1,434  
Reject – 1,913

Shall the Town of Westerly increase the following account as listed in the FY 1992-93 budget adopted by the Town Council April 15, 1992? Department #2200 School from \$19,080,516 to \$19,858,150.

Approve – 1,447  
Reject – 1,899

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6/2/1992

LOCAL REFERENDA

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16.33%

Shall the Charter be amended to change the Council-Manager form of government to a Council and Elected Mayor form of government?

Approve – 577  
Reject – 1,241

Shall Section 8-1-3 of the Charter be amended to provide that an auxiliary member be appointed to the Board of Assessment Review to sit as an active member of the Board when and if a member of the Board is unable to serve at any hearing?

Approve – 1,248  
Reject – 459

Shall Section 11-1-7 of the Charter be amended to change the date that the School Committee is required to submit its budget to the manager from January 24, to the second Monday of December?

Approve – 1,010  
Reject – 700

Shall Section 3-1-2 of the **Charter** be amended to change the **membership** of the **Board of Finance** from **six** (6) members **to five** (5) members and the **term** of each member **from six** (6) years **to five** (5) years?

**Approve** – 1,308  
**Reject** – 399

Shall Article III of the **Charter** be amended 1) to change the **date** the Town Manager is required by Section 3-1-3 to **submit a proposed budget** to the Finance Board from February 1 to the second Monday of January; 2) to change the requirement of Section 3-1-4 that the Finance Board hold its **first meeting** to consider the recommended annual budget **not later than February 15**, to require the Finance Board to hold **separate meetings** on the **school and municipal budgets** as soon as practicable after the budget is submitted; and 3) to change the requirement of Section 3-1-4 that the Finance Board conduct **two public hearings** on the Town budget to require that the Finance Board conduct **separate public hearings for the school and municipal budgets**?

**Approve** – 1,011  
**Reject** – 673

Shall Section 3-1-5 of the **Charter** be amended 1) to **eliminate** the requirement that the **Council make any revisions to the budget** within ten (10) days of receiving the recommendations of the Board of Finance and **hold one** (1) **public hearing** and 2) to add the requirement that the **council hold two** (2) **public hearings on separate days** to be concluded no later than the first Monday in April?

**Approve** – 996  
**Approve** – 661

Shall Section 3-1-5 of the **Charter** be amended to change the time for holding a **budget referendum** after signatures are validated by the Board of Canvassers, **from seven** (7) days **to thirty-five** (35) days and to **require that mail ballots** and emergency ballots be available for budget referenda?

**Approve** – 997  
**Reject** – 670

Shall Article III of the **Charter** be amended 1) to require the Town Manager to **submit a water and sewer budget**, or any enterprise fund budget to the board of Finance by the first Monday in March; 2) to require the finance Board to transmit its recommendations to the Council not later than the first day of May; 3) to require the Council to make revisions within fifteen (15) days of receiving the water and sewer budget, or any enterprise fund budget from the Board of Finance and to require a public hearing in case the Council makes any such revisions; and 4) to require that water, sewer, and any enterprise fund budget be published, amended, administered and that appropriations lapse in the same manner as provided by the Charter for the Town Budget?

**Approve** – 1,261  
**Reject** – 428

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5/25/1993

FISCAL AFFAIRS REFERENDUM

35.49%

Shall the Town of Westerly increase the following account as listed in the FY 1993-1994 budget adopted by the Town Council March 30, 1993? Department No. 2200 School from \$20,500,000 to \$21,750,000.

**Approve** – 1,967  
**Reject** – 2,359

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5/26/1994

FISCAL AFFAIRS REFERENDUM

25.35%

Shall the Town of Westerly decrease any or all of the following accounts as listed in the FY 1994-95 budget adopted by the Town Council on March 30, 1994?

#1329 Downtown Task Force from \$3,500 to \$0

Approve – 1,467  
Reject – 1,703

#1911 Capital Improvements School from \$553,000 to \$153,000

Approve – 1,359  
Reject – 1,840

#1801 Restricted Program Acct #50538 YMCA from \$50,000 to \$0

**Approve** – 1,681  
Reject – 1,509

#1801 Restricted Program Acct #50537 Well Testing from \$30,000 to \$0

Approve – 1,424  
Reject – 1,741

#1702 Economical Development from \$14,418 to \$0

Approve – 1,505  
Reject – 1,663

#1406 Park and Recreation Maintenance  
Acct #40103 Seasonal Wages from \$54,300 to \$44,300

Approve – 1,447  
Reject – 1,734

#1337 Chamber of Commerce Acct #50299 from \$25,000 to \$12,500

Approve – 1,579  
Reject – 1,611

#1402 Recreation & Leisure from \$67,760 to \$50,000

Approve – 1,498  
Reject – 1,693

#2200 School Department from \$21,627,500 to \$21,427,500

Approve – 1,404  
Reject – 1,805

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**6/21/1994**

**LOCAL REFERENDA**

**40.57%**

Shall an act, passed at the 1994 session of the general assembly entitled 'An act authorizing the Town of Westerly to finance the **acquisition** of certain **land** and the **construction** of a **school facility**, additions to and the renovation and repair of existing school facilities, the purchase of educational instructional equipment, school furnishings and to issue not more than **\$19,000,000** general obligation bonds and/or notes therefor' be approved?

**Approve** – 3,320  
Reject – 1,728

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**11/8/1994**

**GENERAL ELECTION (12,818 Reg voters)**

**58%**

Shall the Town of Westerly continue the pay-by-the-bag trash disposal system?

**Approve** – 3,289  
Reject – 2,742

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**6/20/1995**

**LOCAL REFERENDA**

**4.20%**

Shall an act passed at the 1995 session of the general assembly entitled 'An act authorizing the Town of Westerly to issue general obligation bonds and notes in an amount not exceeding four hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$475,000) to finance the construction and expansion of **sewers** and sewerage systems in the **Franklin Street and Riverdale Gardens** areas of town' be approved?

**Approve – 291**  
**Reject – 196**

Shall an act passed at the 1995 session of the general assembly entitled 'An act authorizing the Town of Westerly to issue general obligation bonds and notes in an amount not exceeding one million three hundred seventy-four thousand dollars (\$1,374,000) for the purpose of financing the construction and expansion of **sewers** and sewerage systems into **Mockingbird Lane**, Lovat Lane, East Avenue (from intersection with Butterfly Drive to intersection with Watch Hill Road), Babcock Road, Davis Street, David Street, Stone Hill Drive, Brass Ring Road, Cedar Crest Drive, Fairfield Drive, Westview Drive and Birch Drive areas of town' be approved?

**Approve – 271**  
**Reject – 219**

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**6/18/1996 LOCAL REFERENDUM 10.73%**

Shall an act passed at the 1996 session of the general assembly entitled 'An act authorizing the Town of Westerly to issue bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness to an amount not exceeding \$515,000 to finance the construction, renovation and expansion of the Westerly **Senior Citizens' Center**' be approved?

**Approve – 805**  
**Reject – 514**

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**5/22/1997 FISCAL AFFAIRS REFERENDUM 14.47%**

Shall the taxpayers of the Town of Westerly reduce and alter the resolutions of the Town Council's adopted 1997-98 budget from \$38,957,208 to \$38,671,436 as follows?

0010 General Property Tax from \$30,692,316 to \$30,146,174	
Acct 40101 Current Prop Taxes	(-\$571,142)
Acct 40105 Town Tax Interest	(+\$25,000)
0013 Use of Property and Money from \$400,000 to \$500,000	
Acct 40410 Interest on Invest	(+\$100,000)
0015 State Grants-In-Aid-Schools from \$4,000,000 to \$4,100,000	
Acct 40550 School Oper	(+\$100,000)
0017 Revenue from local sources from \$1,485,790 to \$1,546,160	
Acct 40656 Trash Bag Receipts	(+\$60,370)
0601 Town Manager from \$122,523 to \$101,523	
Acct 50038 Administrative Asst	(-\$21,000)
0701 Finance Department from \$299,095 to \$284,095	
Acct 50046 Purchasing Agent	(-\$15,000)
0801 Insurance from \$327,390 to \$300,000	
Acct 50295 Contractual Service	(-\$27,390)
0803 Pension Benefits from \$1,066,022 to \$926,181	
Acct 50512 Union Pension Pay	(-\$13,441)
Acct 50513 Police Pension Fund	(-\$120,000)
Acct 50514 State Municipal/ICMA	(-\$6,400)
0804 Social Security from \$211,636 to \$189,037	
Acct 50295 Contractual Service	(-\$22,599)
0805 Employee Group Ins from \$554,963 to \$518,062	
Acct 50295 Contractual Service	(-\$36,901)

1105 Div of Highway and Drainage from \$701,352 to \$700,536	
Acct 50016 Public Works Supt.	(-\$816)
1108 Div of Sanitation – DPW from \$1,140,384 to \$1,352,795	
Acct 50016 Public Works Supt	(-\$233)
Acct 50283 Fringe Benefits	(+\$56,735)
Acct 50285 Surety Bonds & ins	(+\$27,390)
Acct 50501 Principal	(+\$92,267)
Acct 50502 Interest	(+\$36,252)
1309 Subsidies from \$533,353 to \$532,353	
Acct 50642 South County Comm	(-\$2,500)
Acct 50683 Westerly Teen Ctr	(-\$1,000)
Acct 00000 Johnny Cake Ctr	(+\$2,500)
1406 Parks and Rec Maint from \$106,359 to \$99,742	
Acct 50016 Public Works Supt	(-\$117)
Acct 50295 Contractual Serv	(-\$3,000)
Acct 50499 Recreation Imp	(-\$3,500)
1701 Dept of Planning & Zoning from \$155,369 to \$127,369	
Acct 50039 Zoning Officer	(-\$3,000)
Acct 50054 Minimum Housing Officer	(-\$25,000)
1801 Restricted Programs from \$585,500 to \$546,000	
Acct 50117 Position Class/Comp Plan	(-\$12,000)
Acct 50118 Training Prog	(-\$5,000)
Acct 50251 Land Appr Fees/Title	(-\$10,000)
Acct 50565 DEM Fines	(-\$12,500)
1908 Town Debt Service from \$715,477 to \$586,958	
Acct 50295 Contractual Services	(-\$128,519)
1910 Capital Improvements from \$583,400 to \$544,400	
Acct 50472 Radar Units	(-\$14,000)
Acct 50633 Parking Garage	(-\$15,000)

Further Resolved: That any declared surplus, over and above the adopted prior year budget surplus shall be applied to reduce the tax rate. Also, any savings developed through the collective bargaining process prior to certification of the Tax Roll on June 15<sup>th</sup> are to be used to reduce the Tax Rate.

Amend Tax Resolution (#6) from not less than \$30,473,550 to \$29,875,496 nor more than from \$30,773,550 to \$30,175,496.

Amend Education Acct (#7) from \$4,000,000 to \$4,100,000

Approve – 892  
**Reject – 1,754**

**9/7/1997**

**LOCAL REFERENDA**

**19.22%**

Shall an act passed at the 1996 session of the general assembly entitled 'An act authorizing the Town of Westerly to issue bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness to an amount to exceeding \$4,000,000 to finance the upgrade of existing recreational facilities and the acquisition of land for and the construction of a **new recreation facility**' be approved?

Approve – 892  
**Reject – 1,754**

**11/3/1998**

**GENERAL ELECTION – LOCAL QUESTIONS**

**46.96%**

Shall the Town of Westerly finance the renovation, rehabilitation and improvement (including any related construction, additions and equipping) of the town's **wastewater treatment system** including the wastewater

treatment facility, pumping stations and other related facilities and approve the issuance of bonds and notes therefor in an amount not to exceed \$7,100,000?

**Approve – 4,146**  
**Reject – 1,084**

Shall an act, passed at the 1998 session of the General Assembly, entitled 'An act authorizing the Town of Westerly to issue bonds and notes to an amount not exceeding \$255,000 to finance the construction and expansion of **sewers** and sewerage systems in the Pickering Drive and Butterfly Drive areas of Town' be approved?

**Approve – 2,807**  
**Reject – 2,307**

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**05/20/1999                      FISCAL AFFAIRS REFERENDUM                      29.00%**

Shall the taxpayers of the Town of Westerly reduce and alter the Resolutions of the Town Council's adopted 1999-2000 budget from \$44,041,585 to \$42,076,100 as follows:

0803 Pension from \$1,148,619 to \$1,048,619	
Acct 50513 Police Pension Fund	(-\$100,000)
1001 Public Safety & Protection from \$2,796,744 to \$2,699,744	
Acct 50058 Patrol Officer	(-\$22,000)
Acct 50104 Overtime & Standby	(-\$75,000)
1801 Restricted Programs from \$1,039,215 to \$928,215	
Acct 50437 Pick-up Truck	(-\$36,000)
Acct 50406 Shakespeare Grant	(-\$75,000)
1910 Capital Improvements from \$872,545 to \$397,545	
50414 Highway Garage	(-\$200,000)
50427 Parking Garage	(-\$200,000)
50470 Window Repair/Refurbishing	(-\$75,000)
2200 School from \$28,626,947 to \$27,444,462	(-\$1,182,485)

**Approve – 2,046**  
**Reject – 2,091**

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**05/09/2000                      LOCAL REFERENDA                      2.23%**

Shall the Town of Westerly borrow an additional seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000) for the purpose of financing the construction and expansion of **sewers** and sewerage systems into Mockingbird Lane, Lovat Lane, East Avenue (from intersection with Watch Hill Road), Babcock Road, Gileo Drive formerly Davis Street), David Street, Stone Hill Drive, Brass Ring Road, Cedar Crest Drive, Fairfield Drive, Westview Drive and Birch Drive areas of the Town?

**Approve – 252**  
**Reject – 71**

Shall the Town of Westerly borrow an additional one hundred and ninety five thousand dollars (\$195,000) for the purpose of financing the construction and expansion of **sewers** and sewerage system into Mary Lou Avenue in the Town of Westerly?

**Approve – 252**  
**Reject – 74**

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**12/19/2000                      LOCAL REFERENDUM                      14.31%**

Shall the Town of Westerly borrow eight million dollars (\$8,000,000) for the purpose of financing the construction and extension of **sewers** and sewage system into the **Misquamicut** area in the Town of Westerly?

Approve – 819  
Reject – 1,425

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**11/05/2002                      GENERAL ELECTION    48.00%**

Shall section 9-1-7 of the Charter be amended so the Town Manager rather than the Town Council has the authority to **dismiss a police department employee** other than sworn officers?

**Approve – 3,506**  
**Reject – 3,368**

Shall the Charter be amended to allow the members of the **School Committee** to receive an annual **stipend** commencing at \$1,000 to be set annually thereafter by the Town Council?

Approve – 2,848  
**Reject – 4,108**

Shall section 3-1-5© of the Charter be amended to change the number of **signatures** needed **to call for a budget referendum** from 200 to 3% of the qualified electors as determined at the previous General Election?

**Approve – 4,065**  
**Reject – 2,634**

Shall the Town of Westerly obtain additional financing for the renovation, rehabilitation and improvement (including any related construction, additions and equipping) of the Town's **wastewater treatment system**, including the wastewater treatment facility, pumping stations and other related facilities and approve the issuance of bonds and notes therefore in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000?

**Approve – 5,601**  
**Reject – 1,380**

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**5/6/2003                      BOND REFERENDUM                      (15,794 Reg Voters)                      29%**

Shall an Act, passed at the 2003 session of the general assembly, entitled 'an act authorizing the town of westerly to issue general obligation bonds and notes in an amount not to exceed forty million dollars **(\$40,000,000)** for the purpose of financing the construction, renovation, rehabilitation, repair, improvements, furnishings and equipping of and/or additions to **schools** and school facilities in the town' be approved?"

**Approve – 2,498**  
**Reject – 2,088**

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**5/22/2003                      FISCAL AFFAIRS REFERENDUM (15,818 Reg. Voters)                      21%**

A vote of "YES" will be to APPROVE the petition for change.  
A vote of "NO" will be to REJECT the petition for change.

"SHALL THE VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF WESTERLY REDUCE AND ALTER THE TOWN COUNCIL'S ADOPTED 2003-04 BUDGET AS FOLLOWS:?"



DEPT		ACCT	FROM	TO	DIFFERENCE
01010019	Prior Year Surplus	408100	\$1,200,000	\$1,400,000	\$+200,000
01010017	Planner Grant	406193	45,000	0	( -45,000)
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01011908	Bond Beach Referendum	504313	330,000	0	( -330,000)
01011910	Beach Property Improvement	504291	50,000	25,000	( -25,000)
	Craig Field Basketball	504520	25,000	0	( -25,000)
	Police Vehicles	504020	104,000	78,000	( -26,000)
	Pumpout Boat (New)	506050	17,500	0	( -17,500)
01011911	Computer Technology	504545	200,000	150,000	( -50,000)
01011801	Roll Off Truck Lease	504651	32,000	0	( -32,000)
	Council Contingency	504089	10,000	0	( -10,000)
01011801	Audit	504087	75,000	0	( -75,000)
01011108	Forensic Audit D.P.W. Sanitation	504087	0	75,000	+75,000
01011091	Telephone – Cellular Phones	502100	55,000	40,000	( -15,000)
01011701	Assistant Planner	500210	37,592	0	( -37,592)
01011103	Alternate Bldg Official	500510	38,000	15,953	( -22,047)
01011101	Dir. of D.P.W.	500090	15,015	0	( -15,015)
01011108	Dir. of D.P.W.	500090	7,507	0	( -7,507)
01011403	Dir. of D.P.W.	500090	3,754	0	( -3,754)
01011406	Dir. of D.P.W.	500090	3,753	0	( -3,753)
01011101	Town Engineer	500140	0	12,756	+12,756
01010099	School Appropriation	502950	39,062,465	38,712,465	( -350,000)
01011308	Watch Hill Bus Assoc	506690	5,000	0	( -5,000)
01011305	Subsidies Level Funded At 2003 Adopted		150,500	147,500	( -3,000)
LOWER EXPENDITURE ADOPTED 3/26/03			\$965,412.00		
INCREASE REVENUE ADOPTED 3/26/03			\$155,000.00		

Approve – 1,480  
Reject – 1,872

**06/17/2003                      REFERENDA                      (15,822 Reg Voters)                      9.54%**

Shall the Town of Westerly finance the **acquisition and improvement of land** described as those certain lots or parcels of land situated on the northerly and southerly side of Atlantic Avenue, so called, at **Misquamicut**, in the Town of Westerly, known as Westerly Tax Assessor's Plat 166, Lots 4, 5, 6, 14, 15, and 18 (including demolition of existing buildings and improvements) for municipal, recreational and environmental purposes and approve the issuance of bonds and notes therefore in an amount not to exceed **\$4,000,000?**

**Approve – 874**  
**Reject – 618**

Shall the Town of Westerly sell at **public auction** to be held within 120 days of the date of this referendum, for a minimum bid price of not less than 3.2 million dollars, the **land** described as those certain lots or parcels of land situated on the northerly and southerly sides **of Atlantic Avenue**, so called, at Misquamicut, in the Town of Westerly, known as Westerly Tax Assessor's Plat 166, Lots 4, 5, 6, 14, 15 and 18; provided in the event a

minimum bid price of 3.2 million dollars is not received at such public auction, the Town of Westerly shall keep the land for open space and recreational purposes?:

Approve – 611  
Reject – 874

Shall the Town of Westerly obtain additional financing for the renovation, rehabilitation and improvement (including any related design, construction, additions and equipping) of the Town's **wastewater treatment facility**, collection system, pumping station and other related facilities and approve the issuance of bonds and notes therefore in an amount not to exceed **\$1,000,000**?"

Approve – 1,074  
Reject - 397

Shall Section 8-1-1 and Section 8-1-2 of the Westerly Town **Charter** be amended to change the term "Tax Assessor" to "**Town Assessor**" so that henceforth the Assessor shall be known as and referred to as "Town Assessor"?"

Approve – 1,029  
Reject – 417

Shall Section 2-1-11 of the Westerly Town **Charter** which requires that an independent **audit** be made at least every five years by a certified public accountant or firm of such accountants other than the State Bureau of Audits be amended to further require that such audit be performed by a certified public accountant or firm of public accountants who performed the annual audit for the prior fiscal year?"

Approve – 1,202  
Reject – 255

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**11/02/2004**                                      **PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION (16,564 Reg Voters)**                                      **71.92%**

Shall the **Charter** be amended to allow the members of the **School Committee** to receive an annual **stipend** commencing at \$1,000, to be set annually thereafter by the Town Council?

Approve – 3,210  
Reject – 5,897

Shall the **Charter** be amended to reflect the addition of two (2) **alternate** members, from different political parties, as required, to the **Board of Canvassers**?

Approve – 6,037  
Reject – 2,854

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**3/1/2005**  
**Registered Voters: 15,714**                                      **Votes Cast: 2,325**                                      **14.8%**

**1. AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES NOT MORE THAN \$16,575,000 FOR FINANCING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW POLICE STATION AND A NEW PUBLIC WORKS HIGHWAY GARAGE**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted December 13, 2004)

"Shall the Town of Westerly be authorized to issue general obligation bonds and notes in an amount not to exceed sixteen million five hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$16,575,000) for the purpose of financing the construction of a new police station and a new public works highway garage?"

**APPROVE 1,388**  
**REJECT 930**

**2. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER REGARDING AN APPOINTED LICENSING BOARD**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted December 27, 2004)

“Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended to require that there be an appointed Licensing Board separate from the Town Council and established under such terms and conditions to be set by ordinance?”

**APPROVE 1,528**  
**REJECT 754**

**3. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER REGARDING BUDGET SUBMISSION TIMELINES**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted December 27, 2004)

“Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended in section 11-1-7 to require that the School Committee shall submit detailed proposed budget estimates of receipts and expenditures to the Town Manager on or before the second Monday of January of each year?” And

“Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended in section 3-1-3 to require that on the fourth Monday of January of each year, the Town Manager shall submit to the Finance Board, with copies to the Town Council, the proposed budget of the Town of Westerly?” And

“Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended in section 3-1-4(c) to require that the Finance Board shall meet with the Council to transmit its recommendation(s) of the consolidated tentative Town budget to the Council no later than the second Monday in March?” And

“Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended in section 3-1-5(a) to require that the Town Council shall review the recommendations of the Finance Board and shall make any revisions that it may deem necessary or desirable; in which case the Council shall make provisions for no less than two (2) public hearings, they are to be held on two (2) separate days and concluded no later than the second Monday in April?”

**APPROVE 1,865**  
**REJECT 398**

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**11/07/2006**

**Registered Voters: 15,681**

**Votes Cast: 9,449**

**60.0%**

**General Election – Local Questions**

**1. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER** (Resolution of the Town Council adopted June 12, 2006)

“Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended to eliminate the Town Clerk as an Acting Probate Judge to conform to Rhode Island general laws?”

**APPROVE 6,152**  
**REJECT 2,594**

**2. AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES NOT MORE THAN \$3,000,000** (Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 7, 2006)

“Shall the Town of Westerly be authorized to issue general obligation bonds and notes in an amount up to three million dollars for the purpose of acquiring land and property for open space; recreation; wellhead protection and those purposes stated in the open space element of the Comprehensive Plan and/or the Municipal Land Trust Charter?”

**APPROVE 5,734**  
**REJECT 3,115**

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**05/08/2007**

**Registered Voters: 14,544**

**Votes Cast: 2,803**  
**Special Referendum**

**19.0 %**

**1. Vision 2020 Phase II School Building Project \$30,000,000 Bonds and Notes**

Resolution of the Town Council adopted February 12, 2007

Shall the Town of Westerly be authorized to issue general obligation bonds and notes in an amount not to exceed thirty million dollars (\$30,000,000) for the purpose of financing the construction, renovation, rehabilitation, repair, improvements, furnishing and equipping of and/or additions to schools and school facilities in the Town?

**APPROVE 1,276**  
**REJECT 1,518**

**2. Highway and Drainage Improvements \$5,-000,000 Bonds and Notes**

Resolution of the Town Council adopted February 26, 2007

Shall the Town of Westerly be authorized to issue general obligation bonds and notes in an amount not to exceed five million dollars (\$5,000,000) for the purpose of financing the construction, renovation, rehabilitation, repair and improvements to town roads, sidewalks and drainage facilities?

**APPROVE 1,528**  
**REJECT 1,252**

**3. Non-Binding Question – Straight Party Ticket Ballot**

Resolution of the Town Council adopted February 26, 2007

Should the state of Rhode Island abolish the practice of allowing voters to cast a straight party ticket ballot?

**APPROVE 1,446**  
**REJECT 1,300**

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**11/04/2008**

**Registered Voters: 16,475**

**Votes Cast: 11,212**  
**PREDIDENTIAL ELECTION**

**69.0 %**

**Questions 1 and 2 were State Questions**

**3. AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF BOND AND NOTES NOT TO EXCEED \$30,000,000**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

**APPROVE 5,375**  
**REJECT 4,997**

“Shall The Town Of Westerly Be Authorized To Issue General Obligation Bonds And Notes In An Amount Not To Exceed Thirty Million Dollars (\$30,000,000.00) For The Purpose Of Financing The Renovation, Rehabilitation, Repair, Improvement, Furnishing And Equipping Of The Westerly High School?”

**4. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Require The Town Finance Department To Publish A Financial Impact Statement Before Bond Issues Are Submitted For Voter Approval?”

<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>8,418</b>
REJECT	1,622

**5. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Require That The Town’s Web Site Include Information Pertaining To Town And School Department Agendas, Minutes, Reports, Budgets, Labor Contracts And Certain Other Public Records Which Are Required To Be Public By Law?”

<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>8,338</b>
REJECT	1,657

**6. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Require That The Town Finance Director Maintain Information On School Department Accounts And Include School Department Financial Data On His/Her Monthly Reports?”

<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>8,404</b>
REJECT	1,524

**7. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Require That The School Department Finance Director Provide All Financial Information As Requested By The Town Finance Director?”

<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>8,684</b>
REJECT	1,230

**8. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Require The Town Clerk To Publish Proposed School And Municipal Budgets On The Town’s Web Site?”

<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>8,340</b>
REJECT	1,621

**9. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Require The School Department To Submit Its Budget In Conformance With The State’s Uniform Chart Of Accounts?”

<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>8,095</b>
REJECT	1,539

**10. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Incorporate Updated State Code Of Ethics Language With Respect To Town And School Officials?”

<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>7,867</b>
<b>REJECT</b>	<b>1,799</b>

**11. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Formally Incorporate An Application, Interview And Merit Selection Process For The Municipal Court Judge And Prohibit Any Judge So Appointed From Belonging To Any Local Or State Political Committee Or Contributing Money To Any Political Candidate Or Party?”

<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>7,502</b>
<b>REJECT</b>	<b>2,095</b>

**12. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Formally Incorporate An Application, Interview And Merit Selection Process For The Town Probate Judge And Prohibit Any Judge So Appointed From Belonging To Any Local Or State Political Committee Or Contributing Money To Any Political Candidate Or Party And Shall The Probate Clerk’s Designation And Application Of Fees Be Clarified”

<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>7,510</b>
<b>REJECT</b>	<b>1,984</b>

**13. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Change The Term Of The Town Probate Judge From Two Years To Five Years?”

<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>3,573</b>
<b>REJECT</b>	<b>6,170</b>

**14. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Reduce The Number Of Signatures Needed For A Budget Referendum From 3% Of All Registered Voters To 1.5%?”

<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>2,808</b>
<b>REJECT</b>	<b>6,996</b>

**15. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Allow For The Appointment Of A Charter Revision Commission Upon The Filing Of A Petition Signed And Certified By 400 Registered Voters?”

<b>APPROVE</b>	<b>5,640</b>
<b>REJECT</b>	<b>3,749</b>

**16. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Require That Only A Senior Level Town Administrator May Serve As Acting Or Temporary Manager When Necessary?”

**APPROVE**            **6,751**  
**REJECT**             **2,888**

**17. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Eliminate A Residency Requirement For The Town Manager Which Has Been Invalidated By Current State Law?”

**APPROVE**            **5,131**  
**REJECT**             **4,487**

**18. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Require That Town Salaries Be Set During The Budget Process?”

**APPROVE**            **8,389**  
**REJECT**             **1,354**

**19. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Incorporate The State ‘ Open Meetings’ And ‘Access To Public Records’ Acts In The Town Charter?”

**APPROVE**            **8,319**  
**REJECT**             **1,320**

**20. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2008)

“Shall The Town Charter Be Amended To Allow For The Establishment Of A Town Advisory Architectural Review Board?”

**APPROVE**            **5,686**  
**REJECT**             **3,918**

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**11/02/2010**

**Registered Voters: 16,381**

**Votes Cast: 7,889**

**48.16 %**

**GENERAL ELECTION**

**Questions 1 through 4 were State Questions**

**5. AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES NOT TO EXCEED \$6,500,000**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 19, 2010)

Shall the Town of Westerly be authorized to issue general obligation bonds and notes in an amount not to exceed six and a half million dollars (\$6,500,000) for the purposes of financing the construction, renovation, rehabilitation, repair and/or improvements to town roads, sidewalks, drainage facilities, the town hall, and other town infrastructure?

**APPROVE**            **4,635**  
**REJECT**             **2,620**

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**6. AUTHORIZING NON-BINDING QUESTION**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 2, 2010)

Do the citizens of Westerly want consolidation of support staff between the Town and the School to continue?

**APPROVE 5,484**  
**REJECT 1,624**

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**11/06/2012**

**Registered Voters: 17,027**

**Votes Cast: 10,527**  
**GENERAL ELECTION**

**61.83 %**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 9, 2012 – Budget Timeline)

1. Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended in section 3-1-3 to require that the submittal of the budget to the Board of Finance from the Town Manager be changed from the fourth Monday in January to the third Monday in February each year?

**Approve 7,607**  
**Reject 2,233**
2. Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended in section 3-1-4 (c) to require that the transmittal of the Board of Finance's recommendation of the Town budget to the Town Council be changed from the second Monday in March to the first Monday in April?

**Approve 6,773**  
**Reject 2,349**
3. Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended in section 3-1-5 (a) to require that the Council shall hold at least two public hearings on the Budget, which shall be held on two separate days, and that the conclusion of the hearings be changed from the second Monday in April to the fourth Wednesday in April?

**Approve 7,607**  
**Reject 1,509**
4. Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended in section 3-1-5 (d) to require that the number of days for the Board of Canvassers to check the validity of signatures on a petition(s) be reduced from seven days to three days, and a referendum would be held within 32 days, not 35 days, of validation by the Board of Canvassers?

**Approve 5,747**  
**Reject 3,424**
5. Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended in section 3-1-10 to require that the submittal of the enterprise fund budgets to the Board of Finance from the Town Manager be changed from the first Monday in March to the first Monday in April of each year, and the transmittal of the Board of Finance's recommendations to the Town Council be changed from not later than the first day of May, to not later than the first Monday of June?

**Approve 6,666**  
**Reject 2,404**



6. Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended in section 3-1-12 to eliminate the reference to section 3-1-6, and to strike the words "or as amended by referendum", since there is no provision in the Charter for a referendum on the enterprise fund budgets, rendering the text inconsistent?

**Approve 6,863**  
Reject 2,040

7. Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended in section 11-1-7 to require that the submittal of the School Committee's proposed budget to the Town Manager be changed from the second Monday of January of each year to the first Monday of February of each year?

**Approve 7,007**  
Reject 2,152

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**04/24/2014**

**Registered Voters: 17,442**

**Votes Cast: 1,076**  
**SPECIAL BOND REFERENDUM**

**6.15 %**

Shall the Town of Westerly be authorized to issue general obligation bonds and notes in an amount not to exceed \$1,300,000.00 (One million three hundred thousand dollars) for the purpose of financing the purchase of twelve certain undeveloped parcels of land located generally in the Bradford area (sometimes referred to as "Lucey Property" for the purpose of placing said Properties into Open Space? Said Lots are identified by Westerly Tax Assessor's as AP no. 53, lot 18; AP no.54 lot 2; AP no. 54 lot 1; AP no. 43 lot 41; AP no. 53 lot 20; AP no. 53 lot 20a; AP no. 65 lot 2; AP no. 64 lot 1; AP no. 64 lot 2; AP no. 75 lot 3; AP no. 75 lot 3a and AP no. 44 lot 10.

**Approve 828**  
Reject 248

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**11/04/2014**

**Registered Voters: 17,703**

**Votes Cast: 7,658**  
**General Election**

**43.26%**

1. Shall the Town of Westerly finance the construction, renovation, rehabilitation, repair and improvements to Town roads, sidewalks and drainage facilities through the issuance of bonds and notes therefor in an amount not to exceed \$6,000,000?

**Approve 5,793**  
Reject 1,405

2. Shall the Town of Westerly finance the construction and installation of an artificial turf field at Westerly High School through the issuance of bonds and notes therefor in an amount not to exceed \$975,000?

Approve 2,601  
**Reject 4,622**

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**11/10/2015**

**Registered Voters: 17,241**

**Votes Cast: 442**

**2.56%**

**CHARTER REVISION REFERENDA**  
**(Resolution of the Town Council adopted September 14, 2015)**

1. "Shall Section 2-1-9(f) of the Charter be amended to include a provision that members of boards or commissions can only be removed for cause?"

**Approve 338**  
Reject 102

2. "Shall Section 3-1-2 of the Charter be amended to remove the restriction that a member of the Finance Board cannot hold an appointed or elected position or office in the state or region, so long as the board is not affected by any action of the state or regional position or office?"
- Approve 234**  
Reject 207
3. "Shall Section 15-1-1(a)(2) of the Charter be amended to allow 3% or more of the electorate to petition the Town Council for a charter revision either through a charter commission or by placing the question directly on the ballot?"
- Approve 319  
Reject 119
4. "Shall Section 2-1-4 of the Charter be amended to adjust Council salaries only during the annual budget process?"
- Approve 370**  
Reject 72
5. "Shall Section 2-1-9(b) of the Charter be amended to allow the Council to appoint a Town Manager for a definite term?"
- Approve 285**  
Reject 156
6. "Shall Section 4-1-3 of the Charter be amended to allow the Council to appoint a temporary or interim Town Manager in the event of the disability, incapacity, resignation or death of the Town Manager?"
- Approve 381**  
Reject 59
7. "Shall Section 13-1-1 of the Charter be amended to allow the Council to appoint a Solicitor for an indefinite term and to restrict the Council from discharging the Solicitor except upon a majority vote of the Council?"
- Approve 274**  
Reject 166

**PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION**

**NOVEMBER 8, 2016**

**18,225 ELIGIBLE VOTERS**

**63% VOTER TURNOUT**

7,635 at the polls, 3,859 mail ballots

(Questions 1-7 – State Questions)

8. **AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$38,500,000**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 1, 2016)

"Shall an Act, passed at the 2016 session of the General Assembly, entitled, 'An Act authorizing the Town of Westerly to issue general obligation bonds and notes in an amount not to exceed thirty-eight million five hundred thousand dollars (\$38,500,000) for the purpose of financing in the construction, renovation, rehabilitation, repair, improvements, furnishing and equipping of and/or additions to schools and school facilities in the Town' be approved?"

Approve – 4,853  
**Reject – 5,353**

9. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall section 2-1-1 of the Charter be amended to alter Town Councilor terms of office from two (2) year terms to four (4) year staggered terms?”

Approve – 3,940  
Reject – 5,926

10. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall section 2-1-1 of the Charter be amended to impose term limits for Town Councilors to no more than two (2) consecutive terms with the Council electing a president every two (2) years?”

Approve – 7,061  
Reject – 2,807

11. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall the Charter be amended to include a provision limiting Planning Board and Zoning Board of Review members to serve no more than two (2) consecutive five (5) year terms?”

Approve – 7,548  
Reject – 2,238

12. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 11-1-1 of the Charter be amended to limit the office of School Committee members to two (2) consecutive four (4) year terms?”

Approve – 7,159  
Reject – 2,647

13. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall the Charter be amended to include a recall provision to remove an elected official from office, so long as the recall is not initiated during the first four (4) months or the last eight (8) months of the term of the incumbent?”

Approve – 7,085  
Reject – 2,525

14. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall the Charter be amended to include a provision that bars any person who has been recalled or resigned while recall proceedings were initiated from holding elected or appointed office or being employed by the Town within two (2) years of such recall or resignation?”

**Approve – 7,338**  
Reject – 2,217

15. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall the Charter be amended to include a voter initiative and referendum provision to allow Westerly citizens to petition the Council to enact or repeal certain ordinances and laws by 12% of the electorate?”

**Approve – 6,957**  
Reject – 2,569

16. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall the Charter be amended to mandate that the Council create by ordinance on or before July 1, 2017 a Code of Ethics applicable to all elected and appointed officials, and employees?”

**Approve – 7,853**  
Reject – 1,729

17. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 7-1-1 of the Charter be amended to preclude the Town Manager from serving as Director of Finance and to have the Director of Finance report to the Town Manager?”

**Approve – 6,882**  
Reject – 2,582

18. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 7-1-1 of the Charter be amended to empower the Director of Finance to integrate the Town’s municipal budget with the School Department budget in order to produce a unified, master budget to the Town Manager?”

**Approve – 5,768**  
Reject – 3,673

19. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 7-1-1 of the Charter be amended to allow the Director of Finance to also serve as the Chief Financial Officer of the School Department?”

Approve – 4,391  
**Reject – 5,085**

20. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 7-1-2 of the Charter be amended to add the requirement that the Director of Finance hold a minimum of a bachelor’s degree in business, finance or accounting?”

**Approve – 7,774**  
Reject – 1,864

21. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall the Charter be amended to clarify that the Town Manager has the authority to determine eligibility requirements of all municipal employees, including Director of Finance?”

Approve – 4,637  
**Reject – 4,849**

22. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 7-1-3 of the Charter pertaining to the Council’s setting of the salary of the Director of Finance be eliminated?”

Approve – 4,206  
**Reject – 5,071**

23. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 7-1-4 of the Charter be amended to permit the Director of Finance to appoint and remove a Purchasing Agent, appoint and remove a Tax Collector, consolidate positions, and perform any other duties under the Department of Finance except that of Tax Collector?”

**Approve – 5,131**  
Reject – 4,125

24. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall the Charter be amended to clarify that only the Town Manager has authority to hire or terminate town employees, including any employee of the Department of Finance?”

Approve – 3,974  
Reject – 5,529

25. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 7-1-4 of the Charter be amended to impose and include additional duties and responsibilities attendant to the operations of the Department of Finance?”

Approve – 5,671  
Reject – 3,539

26. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 7-1-4 of the Charter be amended to state that additional duties and responsibilities attendant to the operations of the Finance Department be left to the discretion of the Town Manager?”

Approve – 4,275  
Reject – 4,981

27. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall the Charter be amended to include a provision that requires the Town to adopt cost accounting and double-entry accrual accounting principles for the handling of enterprise funds?”

Approve – 6,725  
Reject – 2,504

28. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall the Charter be amended requiring the Town to adopt those bookkeeping and accounting principles for the handling of enterprise funds that are in compliance with generally accepted accounting and auditing standards?”

Approve – 7,259  
Reject – 2,103

29. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 11-1-7 of the Charter be amended to submit the presentations of the proposed annual School Department budget in the format requested by the Board of Finance?”

Approve – 6,872

30. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall the Charter be amended to create a Department of Development Services consisting of a director and under whom the following positions report: Town Planner, Zoning Official, Property Maintenance Official and Building Official?”

**Approve – 5,279**

Reject – 3,984

31. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall the Charter be amended to create a Department of Environmental Safety, headed by a director appointed by the Town Manager, the powers and duties of which will be prescribed by ordinance?”

Approve – 4,470

**Reject – 4,880**

32. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 10-1-1 of the Charter be amended to eliminate the ability of the Town Manager to serve as the Director of Public Works?”

**Approve – 5,766**

Reject – 3,591

33. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 10-1-1 of the Charter continue to permit the Town Manager to serve as Director of Public Works?”

Approve – 3,108

**Reject – 6,220**

34. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 13-1-1 of the Charter be amended to have the appointments of all town solicitors be based upon formal application and a merit interview?”

**Approve – 7,796**

Reject – 1,531

35. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 13-1-1 of the Charter be amended to have assistant town solicitors serve a term concurrent with that of the Council until their successors are appointed and qualified?”

**Approve – 6,781**

Reject – 2,363

36. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 13-1-2 of the Charter be amended to include the provision that solicitor and assistant solicitors be graduates of an accredited law school and admitted to the practice of law in Rhode Island for a minimum of five (5) years?”

**Approve – 7,496**

Reject – 1,829

37. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 13-1-4 of the Charter be amended to include additional duties and responsibilities of the Solicitor, subject only to the Solicitor’s obligations under the rules of professional responsibility?”

**Approve – 6,516**

Reject – 2,510

38. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 8-1-2 of the Charter be amended to reflect the current practice permitting the Assessor to use the services of a mass appraisal company?”

**Approve – 5,604**

Reject – 3,472

39. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 8-1-2 of the Charter be amended to expand and further specify the duties and responsibilities of the Assessor?”

**Approve – 6,110**

Reject – 2,974

40. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL



(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall the Charter be amended to state that additional duties and responsibilities attendant to the Town Assessor be left to the discretion of the Town Manager or as imposed by state law?”

**Approve – 5,269**  
Reject – 3,830

**41. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall Section 3-1-10 of the Charter be amended to change text from “June” to “May” for the purpose of submitting budget recommendation to the Council?”

**Approve – 7,279**  
Reject – 1,903

**42. AMENDMENT TO WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER PROPOSED BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted August 4, 2016)

“Shall the Charter be amended to update text changes to be consistent with existing Rhode Island law and statutes?”

**Approve – 8,006**  
Reject – 1,347

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**NOVEMBER 13, 2017**                      **BOND REFERENDUM**                      **2.8% VOTER TURNOUT**  
**17,907 ELIGIBLE VOTERS**  
275 at the polls, 237 mail ballots (one blank)

**AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,664,000**  
(Resolution of the Town Council adopted September 18, 2017)

"Shall the Town of Westerly finance sewer system infrastructure improvements through the issuance of general obligation bonds and notes therefor in an amount not to exceed \$1,664,000?"

**Approve – 429**  
Reject – 82

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**NOVEMBER 6, 2018**                      **GENERAL ELECTION**                      **41% VOTER TURNOUT**  
**18,568 ELIGIBLE VOTERS**  
7,636 at the polls, 1,671 mail

**AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES**  
**IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$15,000,000**  
(Resolution of the Town Council adopted June 11, 2018)

4. Shall the Town of Westerly finance the 2018 road and bridge infrastructure improvements through the issuance of bonds and notes therefore in an amount not to exceed \$15,000,000?

**Approve – 6,727**  
Reject – 1,873

**CHARTER AMENDMENT RE: COUNCIL VACANCY**

5. (Art. II, Chapter 1, §3 "Vacancies")

Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended to fill council vacancies in the following manner:

- The next runner up from the preceding general election shall be afforded the right to assume the office; then
- If none of the top three (3) runners up assume the office and it is less than a year since the preceding election, a special election shall be held; or
- If none of the top three (3) runners up assume the office and it is at least a year since the preceding election, then the Council shall attempt to appoint a qualified person to the office?

**Approve – 6,145**  
**Reject – 2,294**

**CHARTER AMENDMENT RE: REDUNDANT ETHICS COMMISSION**

6. (Art. II, Chapter 1 §13 "Code of Ethics")

Shall the redundant local ethics commission be removed from the Town Charter since all Town of Westerly public officials and employees are subject to the Rhode Island Ethics Commission?

**Approve – 5,583**  
**Reject – 2,827**

**CHARTER AMENDMENT RE: ADMINISTRATION OF TOWN FINANCES**

7. (Art III, Chapter 1, §7 "Amendments after Adoption", Art. VII "Finance Department", Chapter 1, §1 "Organization" and §4 "Powers and Duties")

Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended to address the following issues regarding the administration of the Town Finances:

- Clarify that only the Town Manager has the authority to appoint and remove employees
- Clarify the distinction between the Town and School financial officers?

**Approve – 5,896**  
**Reject – 2,513**

**SPECIAL REFERENDUM**

**OCTOBER 10, 2019**

**18,595 ELIGIBLE VOTERS**

**21.1% VOTER TURNOUT**

3,924 Total Ballots Cast, 3,007 Election Day, 917 Mail Ballots

**AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$71,410,000**

(Resolution of the Town Council adopted June 17, 2019)

1. "Shall an Act, passed at the 2019 session of the General Assembly, entitled, 'AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF WESTERLY TO ISSUE NOT TO EXCEED \$71,410,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES AND OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS TO FINANCE THE CONSTRUCTION, RENOVATION, IMPROVEMENT, ALTERATION, REPAIR, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING OF SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES THROUGHOUT THE TOWN, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF STATE HOUSING AID AT A REIMBURSEMENT RATE OR STATE SHARE RATIO OF NOT LESS THAN 35% FOR EXPENDITURES ELIGIBLE FOR STATE AID AND PROVIDED THAT THE AUTHORIZATION SHALL BE REDUCED BY ANY GRANT RECEIVED FROM THE SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY CAPITAL FUND' be approved?"

**Approve – 1,726**  
**Reject – 2,180**

QUESTIONS 2 – 4  
AMENDMENTS TO THE WESTERLY HOME RULE CHARTER  
PROPOSED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL  
(Resolutions of the Town Council adopted August 5, 2019)

2. "Shall the Westerly Town Charter be updated to remove term limits for the Town Council?"

Approve – 948  
**Reject – 2,904**

3. "Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended to permit submission of a proposed budget on the third Monday in March?"

**Approve – 2,853**  
Reject - 930

4. "Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended to permit submission of a proposed School Committee budget on the first Monday in March?"

**Approve – 2,870**  
Reject – 917

<b>NOVEMBER 3, 2020</b>	<b>GENERAL ELECTION</b> <b>19,430 ELIGIBLE VOTERS</b> 4975 Election day polls, 7960 mail Total Votes - 12935	<b>66.57% VOTER TURNOUT</b>
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**AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION Bonds**  
**IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,000,000**  
(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 20, 2020)

2. WINNAPAUG POND AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT \$1,000,000 BONDS AND NOTES (Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 20, 2020) Shall the Town of Westerly finance the 35% non-federal local cost-share for the construction phase of the USACOE Winnapaug Pond Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Project through the issuance of bonds and notes therefore in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000?

**Approve – 8,045**  
Reject – 3,725

**AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND NOTES**  
**IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,550,000**  
(Resolution of the Town Council adopted June 29, 2020)

3. WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES \$1,550,000 BONDS AND NOTES (Resolution of the Town Council adopted June 29, 2020) Shall the Town of Westerly finance matching funds to finance improvements to the Westerly Wastewater Treatment Facilities including strengthening resilience of wastewater collection and treatment infrastructure through the issuance of bonds and notes therefore in an amount not to exceed \$1,550,000?

**Approve – 9,377**  
Reject – 2,406

**CHARTER AMMENDMENT RE: DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 20, 2020)

4. AMENDMENT TO THE WESTERLY TOWN CHARTER RE: DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS  
(Resolution of the Town Council adopted July 20, 2020) Shall the Westerly Town Charter be amended to eliminate the position of Director of the Department of Public Works from the Town Charter?

**Reject - 5,821**  
Approve – 5,398

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**MAY 4, 2021**

**SPECIAL REFERENDA**  
**19,327 ELIGIBLE VOTERS** **5.14%**  
515 Election Day – Polls  
187 Mail  
292 Emergency/Early In-Person  
**Total Votes – 994**

**SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES**  
**\$2,000,000 BONDS AND NOTES**  
(Resolution of the Town Council adopted February 22, 2021)

1. Shall an Act, passed at the 2021 session of the General Assembly, entitled 'An act authorizing the Town of Westerly to issue not to exceed \$2,000,000 general obligation bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness to finance the construction, renovation, improvement, alteration, repair, furnishing and equipping of schools and school facilities in the Town' be approved?

**APPROVE – 727**  
REJECT - 264

**ROAD AND SIDEWALK INFRASTRUCTURE AND RELATED WATER LINE IMPROVEMENTS**  
**\$11,000,000 BONDS AND NOTES**  
(Resolution of the Town Council adopted March 2, 2021)

2. Shall an Act, passed at the 2021 session of the General Assembly, entitled 'An act authorizing the Town of Westerly to issue not to exceed \$11,000,000 general obligation bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness to finance the construction of road and sidewalk infrastructure improvements and related water line improvements in the Town' be approved?

**APPROVE – 784**  
REJECT - 209