

The Town of Canaan NY

Your town - Your news



Time to Vote!

Last day for **Early Voting** is Sunday, November 5.

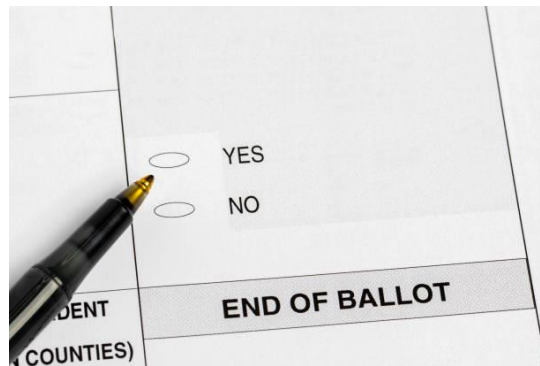
There are two Early Voting locations in Columbia County:

- **Columbia County Office Building**
401 State Street
Hudson, NY 12534
- **Martin H. Glynn Municipal Building**
3211 Church Street
Valatie, NY 12184

Absentee ballots must be postmarked no later than Tuesday, November 7.

Or, **vote on Election Day**, Tuesday, November 7, **6AM to 9 PM**, at the Canaan Town Hall, 1647 County Route 5, Canaan, NY.

Local Issues on the Ballot



Here are the local ballot proposals (3, 4 & 5 on the ballot) with some background information for you to know about. All three have been voted on unanimously by our Town Board and are now subject to voter approval.

Highway Superintendent term extended from 2 to 4 years

The Highway Superintendent's position relies on specific skills as well as local knowledge about town roads and infrastructure. Given the skills and learning curve associated with this position a longer

term would provide stability for the town, and the employee, making it easier to train and retain employees.

Separation of Town Clerk and Tax Collector positions

The Town Clerk and Tax Collector offices, and salaries, were combined in 2007. Given the demands of the Town Clerk's office, the specific skills required to do the Tax Collector's job, and the division of labor among staff in recent years, it seems practical and expedient to separate the two positions and salaries.

Reduction of Town Clerk's Salary

The Town Clerk's duties will be reduced with the separation of the Town Clerk and Tax Collector offices. The Town Clerk's duties were also reduced in 2023 with the hiring of a second Deputy Clerk for the sole purpose of providing town meeting minutes. The proposed salary reduction is commensurate with the reduction of duties.



State Ballot Proposals



Here are the two State Proposals (1 & 2) you will find on the ballot.

- **Removal of small city school districts debt limit**

What the Proposal Says:

The proposed amendment to Article 8, section 4 of the Constitution removes the special constitutional debt limitation now placed on small city school districts, so they will be treated the same as all other school districts. Shall the proposed amendment be approved?

What the Proposal Means:

If passed, spending and debt restrictions placed on small city school districts will be eliminated. A “small city” has less than 125,000 people. If this proposal passes, small city school districts would be allowed to have the financial flexibility of other school districts. School districts with more residents do not have specific debt limits.

If this Proposal Passes:

Small city school districts will not be limited in spending used to maintain and improve school facilities and address the needs of its students.

- **Extending sewage project debt exclusion from debt limit**

What the Proposal Says:

The proposed amendment to Article 8, section 5 of the Constitution extends for ten years the authority of counties, cities, towns, and villages to remove from their constitutional debt limits debt for the construction of sewage facilities. Shall the proposed amendment be approved?

What the Proposal Means:

If passed, sewage debt for treatment, disposal, and construction projects will not count as debt for counties, cities, towns, and villages in the state. This debt is already excluded but that exception will expire on January 1, 2024. This would extend the exception until January 1, 2034.

If this Proposal Passes:

Spending on the treatment and disposal of sewage will not be included in the amount of debt allowed throughout the state for 10 more years.



Editorial services on the Town of Canaan New York Newsletter provided by L. Spencer Humphrey and Donna Mattoon.

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