

WARNING
ANNUAL CITY MEETING
MARCH 3, 2025

The qualified voters of the City of Vergennes are hereby warned and notified that the Annual City Meeting will be held on Monday, March 3, 2025, commencing at 7:30 p.m. at the Vergennes Opera House located at 120 Main Street. The meeting can be accessed via Zoom using the following information:

- Join by Computer: <https://zoom.us/j/561577976>
- Join by Phone: Dial: 1 (312) 626-6799
- Meeting ID: 561 577 976
- Meeting Password: 1234

The Annual City Vote will be held on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at the Vergennes Fire Station located at 50 Green Street. The polls will open at 9:00 a.m. and will close at 7:00 p.m. The following Articles will be included on the ballot:

Article [1]: To elect by Australian ballot: one Mayor, three Aldermen for respective two-year terms; one Lister for a three-year term and one Lister for a one-year term; one Auditor for a three-year term, one Auditor for a two-year term and one Auditor for a one-year term; one Grand Juror for a one-year term and two to Addison Northwest School District Board for a three-year term; one Commissioner to the Vergennes-Panton Water District Board of Water Commissioner's for a three-year term.

Article [2] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the voters approve a reduction of the liquor liability insurance from \$2,000,000 to \$1,000,000, both per occurrence and in the aggregate, in the voter-approved lease between the City and the Friends of Vergennes Opera House, as required by Section 26 of the City Charter that requires all leases to be approved by the voters?

Article [3] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the voters approve a 15-year easement between the City of Vergennes and the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, that protects the historic features of the Vergennes City Hall/Opera House, and satisfies the terms of a \$500,000 grant awarded to the Friends of Vergennes Opera House via the Historic Preservation Fund, as administered by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, as required by Section 26 of the City Charter that requires all leases to be approved by the voters?

Article [4] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the voters authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds or notes, pursuant to 24 V.S.A., Chapters 53 and 57 by the City of Vergennes in an amount not to exceed One Million Two Hundred Thirty-Three Thousand Dollars (\$1,233,000.00), that may be reduced by the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, for the purpose of financing the purchase of a used heavy rescue fire truck, a used ladder truck, and upgrading radio and safety systems?

Article [5] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the voters approve the establishment of a Parks and Recreation Fund, so that residents, visitors, organizations and foundations may make tax-deductible donations to benefit the Vergennes Parks and Recreation programs and facilities; and for the city to account for revenues and expenses?

Article [6] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the voters approve the establishment of the Vergennes Burying Ground Fund Reserve to fund improvements to the old cemetery on School Street, no longer in use, so that residents, visitors, organizations and foundations may make tax-deductible donations; and for the city to account for revenues and expenses?

Article [7] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the voters of the City of Vergennes advise the City Council to adopt the following pledge? We, the Vergennes City Council, affirm our commitment to freedom, justice, and equality for the Palestinian people and all people; We oppose all forms of racism, bigotry, discrimination, and oppression; and we declare ourselves an Apartheid-free community and to that end, we pledge to join others in working to end all support to Israel's Apartheid regime, settler colonialism, and military occupation?

Article [8] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$5,000 to Addison County Home Health & Hospice, Inc., said sum to come from City funds?

Article [9] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$2,000 to the Addison County Humane Society, Inc., said sum to come from City funds?

Article [10] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$3,074 to Addison County Parent/Child Center, said sum to come from City funds?

Article [11] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$750 to Addison County Readers, Inc., said sum to come from City funds?

Article [12] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$1,500 to Addison County Restorative Justice Services, Inc., said sum to come from City funds?

Article [13] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$5000 to Age Well, Inc., formerly known as CVAA, said sum to come from City funds?

Article [14] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$5,000 to Boys & Girls Club, of Greater Vergennes Inc., said sums to come from City funds?

Article [15] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$2,500 to Counseling Service of Addison County, Inc., said sums to come from City funds?

Article [16] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$2,000 to Elderly Service, Inc., said sum to come from City funds?

Article [17] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$4,000 to Habitat for Humanity of Addison County, VT Inc., said sum to come from City funds?

Article [18] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$3,000 to HOPE, said sum to come from City funds?

Article [19] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$4,000 to John Graham Housing and Services, Inc. said sum to come from City funds?

Article [20] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$3500 to Open Door Clinic, said sum to come from City funds?

Article [21] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$1,000 to Otter Creek Child Center, Inc., said sum to come from City funds?

Article [22] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$950 to RSVP of Addison County, said sum to come from City funds?

Article [23] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$3,000 to Turning Point Center of Addison County, Inc., said sum to come from City funds?

Article [24] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$2,000 to Vergennes Area Seniors Association, Inc., said sum to come from City funds?

Article [25] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$890 to Vermont Adult Learning, said sum to come from City funds?

Article [26] To vote by Australian ballot on the following: Shall the City appropriate \$4,000 to WomenSafe, Inc., said sum to come from City funds?

Article [27] To transact any other non-binding business that may come before the meeting.

Ballot boxes will remain open from nine o'clock in the forenoon until seven o'clock in the afternoon on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at the Vergennes Fire Station on Green Street for voting by Australian ballot on Articles I through XXVI. The legal voters of the City of Vergennes are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting shall be as provided in Chapters 43 and 51 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

Approved by City Council on January 28, 2025