

## Lynn Bielawiec

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**From:** Lynn Bielawiec  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 1:30 PM  
**To:** Abigail Jeffries; Benjamin Thomas; Bryan Hurlburt; Hollie Barnas; Lisa Hancock (Staff Liaison); Lisa Pascuzzi (Clerk); Liz Costa; Marilee Beebe (Co-Chair); Mike Wilkinson (Staff Liaison); Philip Aieta; Robert Green; Susan Errickson (Co-Chair)  
**Subject:** FW: Section C9-7

Good afternoon, please see email below.

*Lynn Bielawiec  
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**From:** Sue Errickson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 27, 2018 12:54 PM  
**To:** Lynn Bielawiec  
**Cc:** marilee beebe  
**Subject:** Fwd: Section C9-7

Please post..and send to commissioners.....thank you

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Lisa Hancock <[lhancock@tolland.org](mailto:lhancock@tolland.org)>  
**Date:** March 27, 2018 at 10:10:25 AM EDT  
**To:** marilee beebe [REDACTED], susan Errickson [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Michael Wilkinson <[mwilkinson@tolland.org](mailto:mwilkinson@tolland.org)>  
**Subject:** Section C9-7

Good Morning,

Phil Aieta contacted me regarding Section C9-7. His concern is that he feels that the Town Council should not be able to adopt a mill rate any different than what is on the referendum and that the referendum should adopt the mill rate.

From the best of my knowledge, State Statutes require the governing authority set the mill rate. I think there are different Statutes as they relate to Councils, Board of Selectman and Boards of Finance and I think they refer to them setting the mill rate. At this point we are very far in the process and I do not know if there is sufficient time to research the information. Also we would more than likely have to get the legal opinion from our Attorney which could be very costly to do such research.

As I had try to explain, there are situations where after all the public meetings, etc. on the budget and the timing required to get the proposed budget to referendum that the impact on the mill rate can possibly change. Over the years we have never in this Town have had to change the mill rate vs. what was proposed in the referendum. During the month of March the Town presents information to the public regarding the budget. There are several meetings with all the initial revenue estimates being used to try to provide the estimated impact on the mill rate. There is always a possibility after all of these meetings and the referendum that there could be changes to the grand list due to adjustments allowed by the Board of Assessment Appeals process or other revenues sources that could substantially impact the original estimate that could not have been known or provided at the time of the presentations. The referendum has legal requirements for being posted and advertised which makes it difficult to change information mid-stream. When we compile our estimates to create the mill rate we try to use the best information that we have available. Some Towns in CT that have referendums try to provide the estimated impact on the mill but do not include the mill rate in the language of the referendum question because of the possible changes. I believe State Statute requires the Governing Authority to set a mill rate that will cover the expenditure budget.

If you feel that this is a change that the Commission would like to address this late in the process then please advise so I can see if we can obtain the necessary legal research and also if the Commission would approve the associated cost which could possibly be substantial if significant hours need to be spent on the research. I do not know how long it will take and that could possibly delay your final draft. I would need to ask our Attorney as to what she would think it would take for timing.

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