



Question # 3 Bond Ordinance – City Hall

On the Ballot in November 2024

A question on the November Ballot asks Rockland voters to approve bonds for the purchase and improvement of the Bok Building at 22 White Street as a new location for City Hall. The ballot question was approved before a Purchase & Sale Agreement because of the deadline for placing items on the ballot.

Why consider a new location for City Hall?

The City has long been interested in the possibility of moving City Hall to a more central, easier to access location for a larger portion of the community. Moving City Hall would improve operations, increase efficiency, and also free up the existing City Hall property for a business looking to locate or expand in Rockland.

The Bok Building is an ideal location for City Hall:

- Centrally located, within walking distance for both neighborhoods and many businesses.
- An opportunity to make City Hall part of a municipal campus joining the neighboring Public Library and Flanagan Community Center.
- It would provide improved operations, efficiency, and better services for Rockland residents
- An historic building appropriate for a public use.

It also is the right time to consider a move. The current City Hall needs upgrades and repairs, including the HVAC system and windows, flooring, and doors. Considering a new location before investing in these repairs makes sense.

The Ballot Question

In August, City Council voted unanimously to place a question on the ballot to finance the purchase and improvement of the Bok Building at 22 White Street. The question will read:

Shall the Ordinance entitled “Bond Ordinance Authorizing Issuance of the City’s Bonds or Notes in an Amount Not To Exceed \$3,000,000 To Finance the Cost of Acquisition, Repairs and Renovations of the Property Located at 22 White Street (Tax Map #21-B-5) to be Used as a New City Hall, Plus an Amount Not to Exceed 2% to Pay the Cost of Issuance of any Bonds or Notes With Respect Thereto” be adopted?

Bonds would only be issued in the event that voters approve the ballot question, and the City reaches agreement with the current owner to purchase the Bok building. The bonds cannot be used for another location or purpose.