

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
MAY 11, 2015  
MINUTES

Pursuant to the previous notice and warning, the Annual Town Meeting was duly held on May 11, 2015 at Chaplin Senior Center, 132 Chaplin Street, Chaplin, Connecticut. There were approximately 19 citizens present. Also present were William H. Rose IV, Irene Schein, Shari Smith, Richard Weingart, Jean Lambert, and Doug Dubitsky. The Town Clerk called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. and read the Legal Warning.

Article 1	The Town Clerk called for nominations to elect a moderator. William Rose nominated Irene Schein, seconded by Eugene Boomer. There being no further nominations Irene Schein was elected by acclamation.
Article 2	The moderator read Article 2 to nominate and elect in accordance with §10-46(b) of the CT General Statutes to the Regional Board of Education of Regional District #11 one member for a full term of three years to commence July 1, 2015; Eugene Boomer nominated Stacy Foster seconded by John Smith. There being no further nominations the moderator called for a hand vote. There were 22 votes in favor, none opposed and no abstentions. Stacy Foster was declared elected to the Regional District 11 Board of Education
Article 3	The moderator read Article 3 to nominate and elect five members of the Recreation Commission for terms of two years to commence July 1, 2015 in accordance with the Town Ordinance enacted May 12, 1976, as amended; and opened the floor for nominations. Stacy Foster nominated John Smith seconded by Sally Ireland. John Smith nominated Matthew Cunningham, Paul Deveny, Denise Stevens seconded by Eugene Boomer. There being no further nominations the Moderator called for a hand vote. . There were 22 votes in favor, none were opposed and there were no abstentions. John Smith, Matthew Cunningham, Paul Deveny and Denise Stevens were declared elected to Recreation Commission.
Article 4	The moderator read Article 4: Whereas the Town is applying for Local Capital Improvement Grant Funds: therefore, to resolve to approve the CIP plan for FY 2016-2020 (on file with the Town Clerk). William Rose made a motion to resolve to approve the CIP plan for FY 2016-2020 seconded by Richard Weingart. Richard Weingart gave an overview of the CIP plan on pages 13 and 14 of the budget. He spoke about several items that were not in the budget last year. The first was on line item 34 which was an extra \$125,000. to go towards road maintenance and other infrastructure having to do with roads. And line item 45 where there is an allocation of \$150,000 to buy a new plow truck. He also spoke about line item 52 under the Chaplin Elementary School Education regarding the purchase of a Polaris Ranger for plowing snow and item 53 regarding replacement of the classroom blinds to meet security requirements. William Rose then gave an explanation of the LOCIP funds. Jim Randall asked a question regarding line item 35 and why there were more funds budgeted this year than last year for bridge replacement. William Rose explained the STEAP Grant history regarding bridge repair and replacement and that STEAP Grant funds have been moved from the Bedlam Road Bridge to the North Bear Hill Road Bridge and once we get the final word from the State to move the funds there will be a house keeping meeting to do so. He also explained that STEAP funds are not listed in the Town's financial statement. Alycia Sanders asked further questions regarding the STEAP Grant funding for bridge repair and replacement. William Rose further explained the history of the work to the bridges and also the Darling Pond Dam repair project. The Moderator called for a hand vote. There were 22 votes in favor, none were opposed and there were no abstentions. The motion to resolve to approve the CIP plan for FY 2016-2020 carried.
Article 5	The Moderator read Article 5: *To receive and approve the Annual Town Budget for

	<p>the Fiscal Year July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016 in the amount of \$7,982,667, as submitted by the Board of Finance and to appropriate funds required (contingent on asterisk); Richard Weingart gave a summary regarding the original budget proposed included over \$100,000 for the outplacement of a special education student that was in the school system at the time the budget was finalized but has now left the school system. The budget was then revised to leave in \$34,000. out of the \$100,000 to purchase supplies such as text books and computers and there was then a reduction of \$70,200.</p> <p>Superintendent Henrici then spoke about the budget saying that it was a fiscally responsible budget of 1.95% taking into account health insurance, contractual increases for both certified and non-certified staff and unanticipated Magnet School tuition. The budget meets the needs of the students while taking into consideration the financial constraints of the taxpayers.</p> <p>Richard Weingart spoke of the highlights of the budget on page 2 and mentioned revenue from the sale of the Grange building. He pointed out the General Fund balance and that it is high at 12.12% of expenditures and that it will be down next year at 9.5% which is more acceptable. He then spoke about the item "Balance CES FY 2014-2015 budget" and that the current prediction is that there may be a deficit of \$165,000. that can be attributed to the outplacement costs of the Special Needs student which was over \$100,000 and \$45,000 of unanticipated Magnet School tuition. All of which is well document and presented to the board of finance. We will have to wait until the end of July as we work with the Auditors to know what the final figure will be. There are funds to cover that and still keep our house in order. Local revenues are expected to increase by about \$200,000 because there is a 5.7% increase in the Grand List largely due to the EverSource Energy Company and the building of the power lines</p> <p>Jim Randall asked a question regarding the change in the motor vehicle tax currently under consideration by the General Assembly that could possibly have a negative effect on revenues we receive from the State. Doug Dubitsky gave a summary regarding Senate Bill #1 and explained that there are two parts of the Bill. The first part deals with automobile taxes and a flat 29 mill rate set by the state. The money would be collected by the State and no longer go to the Towns. It would then be distributed back to the Towns depending on their mill rate. The second part of the bill deals with commercial property assessment where the Towns would send 40% of their commercial property assessment to the COG's. We would send ours to NECCOG.</p> <p>Richard Weingart mentioned that the Governor's plan for Towns to fund 100% of the cost of the Resident's State Trooper is dead so the 70% share that we pay now should continue.</p>
Article 6	<p>The moderator called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sally Ireland made a motion to adjourn seconded by Alycia Sanders. All were in favor to adjourn, none were opposed and there were not abstentions. The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.</p>

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Shari Smith  
Town Clerk