

**TOWN OF CHAPLIN**  
**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 7, 2021**

Approximately 40 electors and those authorized to vote at Town Meeting assembled at the Annual Town Budget Meeting on June 7, 2021, at 7:00 P.M. at the Chaplin Senior Center, 132 Chaplin Street, Chaplin, Connecticut and transacted the following business:

\*At their meeting held on May 25, 2021, the Board of Selectmen voted, pursuant to CGS § 7-7, that items #6 and #7 of the Call of the Annual Town Meeting be submitted to a referendum vote at an Adjourned Town Meeting to be held June 15, 2021, at the Chaplin Firehouse, 106 Phoenixville Road (Rte. 198) in said Chaplin from 12:00 Noon to 8:00 P.M.

The Town Clerk called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M., read the call and opened the floor to nominations to elect a moderator for the meeting. Selectman William H. Rose IV/ Diana Alvarez moved/seconded to nominate Irene Schein. Hearing no further nomination, Irene Schein was declared Moderator and read each item on the call as it arose.

1. To nominate and elect to the Regional Board of Education of Regional District 11 one member for a full term of three years to commence July 1, 2021; Eugene V. Boomer, Jr. / Diana Alvarez moved / seconded to nominate Stacy Foster. Hearing no other nominations Stacy Foster was elected by acclamation to the Regional District 11 Board of Education.
2. To discuss and vote to authorize the Selectmen to prepare and market the William Ross Library, 57 Chaplin Street, Chaplin, for public sale. Selectman Rose gave an overview of the steps that have recently been taken to prepare the property for sale including merging two Town owned parcels so that there is now enough land to provide for a primary and a reserve septic system. An A-2 survey has been completed and shows that a driveway, well and septic system can be put on the property. Approval is still needed from the Historic District Commission for the driveway location and an 8-24 review is needed from the Planning and Zoning Commission. The appraisal received from Assessor Chandler Rose is now \$90k. The Moderator called for a motion for the Board of Selectmen to, with the caveat of Historic District Commission approval of the driveway location and Planning and a Zoning Commission 8-24 review, to market and enter into a contract to sell the William Ross Library. Christopher Komuves / Selectman Pinto moved / seconded the motion to so authorize. Further discussion ensued. The Moderator called for a vote to allow the Board of Selectmen to market and enter into a contract to sell the William Ross Library on 57 Chaplin Street. 25 yes, 1 opposed, 1 abstention. The motion passed.
3. Whereas the Town is applying for Local Capital Improvement Grant Funds: therefore, to resolve to approve the CIP plan for FY 2022-2026 (on file with the Town Clerk). The Moderator called for a motion to approve the CIP plan Richard Weingart / Peter Haines moved / seconded a motion to approve the CIP plan. Board of Finance Chairman Richard Weingart gave an overview of the CIP plan highlighting the ongoing projects for general government, public safety the total dollar amount recommended for the CIP plan of \$727,500 with LOCIP funds from the State of 28,862 and moving \$400,000 from the general fund toto the capital improvement fund and \$5,981 from completed project being repurposed into the capital improvement fund. The net funding from the general fund is

\$294,657. The Moderator called for a vote to approve the CIP plan for FY 2022-2026. 27 yes, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions. The CIP plan passed.

4. To appropriate for fiscal year 2020-2021 the transfer of an amount not to exceed \$400,000 from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance to the CIP Fund for the following projects:
  - a. Project #3340.13 - Vehicle Replacement: new Fire Truck (\$175,000).
  - b. Project #3305.7 - England Road Bridge (\$200,000).
  - c. Other projects per CIP Plan (\$25,000)

The Moderator called for a motion to approve the above transfers. Robert Dubos /Christopher Komuves moved / seconded a motion to approve the transfers. The moderator called for a vote. 24 yes, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions. The vote to approve the transfers passed.

5. \*To receive and approve the Annual Town Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022, in the amount of \$9,074,135 as submitted by the Board of Finance and to appropriate funds required; (contingent on asterisk \*); Discussion regarding the budget and a possible future increase to the mill rate ensued. Superintendent Henrici gave an overview of Regional School District 11's budget. Principal Chavez gave an overview of the Chaplin Elementary School budget. The Moderator called for a motion to approve the budget to go to referendum on June 15, 2021. Robert Dubos / Christopher Komuves moved / seconded the motion. The Moderator called for a vote to approve the motion. 24 yes, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions. The vote to approve to send the budget to referendum passed.

6. Public Hearings on the following ordinances, preliminarily approved by the Board of Selectmen to:
  - a. \*Enact an Ordinance merging the Conservation Commission and the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission with members appointed by the Board of Selectmen.
  - b. \*Enact an Ordinance providing for the appointment of members of the Recreation Commission by the Board of Selectmen. The Moderator called for a vote to approve to send the ordinances to referendum. Scott Mathies / Sandra Horning moved / seconded a motion to send the ordinances to referendum. Selectman Rose answered question regarding why these commission members will now be appointed by the Board of Selectman in favor of being elected. Selectman Rose explained that the Inland Wetlands Commission approached him requested the members be appointed and not elected and that it is difficult to get members to fill the positions and to come to meetings. Residents stated discomfort with circumventing the democratic process by having the positions appointed rather than elected. Residents also spoke about the difficulties the commissions have had in getting members to participate. People spoke both for and against the ordinances. The Moderator

called for a vote to approve to send the two ordinances to referendum. 23 yes, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions. The vote passed.

7. To adjourn the meeting after completion of the foregoing business. The Moderator called for a motion to adjourn. Diana Alvarez / Robert Dubos moved / seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.