

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF CHAPLIN
WARNING OF
ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING
MAY 8, 2017**

Approximately 23 electors and those authorized to vote at Town Meeting assembled at the Annual Town Budget Meeting on May 8, 2017 at 6:00 P.M. at the Chaplin Senior Center, 132 Chaplin Street, Chaplin, Connecticut and transacted the following business:

Items 5 and 13 will adjourn to referendum vote to be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at the Chaplin Firehouse, 106 Phoenixville Road (Rte. 198) in said Chaplin from 12:00 Noon to 8:00 P.M.

1. Call to order. The Town Clerk called the meeting to order at 6:07 P.M. and opened the floor to nominations to elect a moderator for the meeting. Matthew Cunningham / Christopher Komuves moved / seconded to nominate Irene Schein. Hearing no further nomination, Irene Schein was declared moderator. She read each item on the call as it arose.
2. 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, 2017; Eugene Boomer / Stephanie Harrington moved / seconded to nominate Sally Ireland. Cesar Beltran / Linkesh Diwan moved / seconded to nominate Christopher Komuves. Hearing no further nominations, the Moderator called for a hand vote with the following results: Sally Ireland – 11, Christopher Komuves – 7. Sally Ireland was declared elected to the Regional District # 11 Board of Education.
3. To nominate and elect five members of the Recreation Commission for terms of two years to commence July 1, 2017; Matthew Foster / Karen O’Gorman moved / seconded to nominate Gary Bennett and John Smith. Hearing no further nominations, Gary Bennett and John Smith were declared elected to the Recreation Commission.
4. Whereas the Town is applying for Local Capital Improvement Grant Funds: therefore, to resolve to approve the CIP plan for FY 2018-2022 (on file with the Town Clerk); Paul Peifer / Rusty Lanzit moved / seconded to approve. Board of Finance Chairman Richard Weingart gave an overview of the plan. Questions were asked and answered regarding the cost of building the playscape at Garrison Park and the cost of cleaning the air ducts and replacing the cafeteria folding tables at the Chaplin Elementary School. The Moderator called for a hand vote of those in favor of approving the CIP plan with the following results: Yes – 15, No – 6. The motion passed.
5. *To receive and approve the Annual Town Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018 in the amount of \$8,202,078 as submitted by the Board of Finance and to appropriate funds required; (contingent on asterisk *); The Moderator called for questions regarding the Town Budget. Questions were asked regarding how the budget would be

affected if the State Trooper's contract is not renewed, what percentage of the State Troopers budget is paid for by the State and by the Town, what is the average cost of the Resident State Trooper per household. Regarding the budget in general, questions were asked about our spending and deficits in the general fund, the Algonquin Pipe line and how it adds to the general fund and about the uncertainties surrounding the Governor's budget proposal. Chairman Weingart gave a detailed explanation of the Town Budget and Superintendent Henrici gave an overview of unanticipated expenses at the Chaplin Elementary School. Bruce Raymond – Democratic Registrar of Voters expressed concern regarding having the Trooper question on the ballot as an advisory only - non-legally binding question. Questions were asked regarding the Elementary School's MBR and if any items can be removed from the Elementary School's budget to the Town's budget.

6. To appropriate for fiscal year 2017-2018 the transfer of an amount not to exceed \$203,288.99 from CIP Fund account 3315.1c – North Bear Hill Bridge to CIP Fund account 3305.9 – North Bear Hill Drainage; Helen Weingart / William Hooper moved / seconded the transfer. Question were asked regarding the work being done to North Bear Hill Road bridge. The Moderator called for a hand vote of those in favor of approving the transfer with the following results: Yes – 17, No – 0. The motion passed.
7. To appropriate for fiscal year 2017-2018 the transfer of an amount not to exceed \$8,817.46 from CIP Fund account 3305.11 – Parish Hill Road Drainage to CIP Fund account 3305.13 – Equipment Replacement; Christopher Komuves / Eugene Boomer moved / seconded. A question was asked regarding a drainage issue at the end of the driveway to Parish Hill. The Moderator called for a hand vote for those in favor approving the transfer with the following results: Yes – 17, No – 0. The motion passed.
8. To appropriate for fiscal year 2017-2018 the transfer of an amount not to exceed \$24,711.39 from CIP Fund account 3305.11 – Parish Hill Road Drainage to CIP Fund account 3315.4 – Darling Pond; Christopher Komuves / Victor Boomer moved / seconded. The Moderator called for a hand vote to approve the transfer with the following results: Yes – 16, No – 0. The motion passed.
9. To appropriate for fiscal year 2017-2018 the transfer of an amount not to exceed \$6,471.15 from CIP Fund account 3305.11 – Parish Hill Road Drainage to CIP Fund account 3320.11a – Playscape; Sally Ireland / Eugene Boomer moved / seconded. Questions were asked regarding the location of the playscape and the funding to build the playscape. The moderator called for a hand vote to approve the transfer with the following results: Yes – 15, No 2. The motion passed.
10. To appropriate for fiscal year 2017-2018 the transfer of an amount not to exceed \$5,305.18 from General Fund restricted account 10701.8 – Discovery Day to CIP Fund account 3320.11a – Playscape; Sally Ireland / Jocelyn Chancy moved / seconded. Questions were asked about funding for phase 1 and 2 of the playscape construction and the total cost of the project. The Moderator called for a hand vote to approve the transfer with the following results: Yes 15, No 3. The motion passed.

11. Public Hearings and possible action to:

a. amend the Farm Building Ordinance to increase the Tax Exemption; Selectman Cunningham explained the reasons for amending the ordinance. Sally Ireland / William Hoper moved / seconded. Questions regarding the number of tax payers who take the exemption and if it would cause a reduction in the budget. The Moderator called for a hand vote to amend the Farm Building Ordinance with the following results: Yes – 16, No – 3. The motion passed.

b. extend the expiration date of the Ordinance Authorizing the Board of Selectmen to Accept Open Space Lands for five years. Helen Weingart / Eugene Boomer moved / seconded. Selectman Cunningham explained the reasons for extending the expiration date of the Board of Selectmen to accept Open Space. Question arose regarding the permitted uses of land given to the Town as Open Space, the relationship between subdivision of land and Open Space requirements as well as how often Open Space land is given to the Town. The Moderator called for a hand vote to extend the expiration date of the Ordinance with the following results: Yes – 19, No – 1. The motion passed.

c. enact an Ordinance confirming membership in the Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments; Jocelyn Chancy / Christopher Komuves moved / seconded. Selectman Cunningham explained the reason for the ordinance and questions arose regarding membership in NECCOG. The Moderator called for a hand vote to enact the Ordinance confirming membership in the Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments with the following results: Yes – 20, No – 0. The motion passed.

d. enact an Ordinance prohibiting the storage, disposal, or use of waste from oil and gas exploration or extraction activities or any derivative thereof, in the Town. Priscilla Diwan-Willey / William Hooper moved / seconded. Selectman Schein gave background regarding the Ordinance. Board of Finance Chairman Doug Dubitsky commented on a bill coming before the House that will ban disposal of fracking waste, and commented on individual towns passing ordinance to ban fracking waste vs. the State enacting the bill. Opinions were voiced in favor of and in opposition to the ordinance. People spoke in support of and opposition to enacting the ordinance. The Moderator called for a hand vote to enact an Ordinance prohibiting the storage, disposal or use of waste from oil and gas exploration or extraction activities or any derivative thereof, in the Town with the following results: Yes – 14, No – 6. The motion passed.

e. to repeal the following Ordinances:

1) Planning and Zoning Commission Fee Ordinance enacted in 2004

Helen Weingart / Jaclyn Chancy moved / seconded. Selectman Cunningham commented that these items were brought to him from the Planning and Zoning Commission. These items are addressed by ordinance and addressed in the Zoning regulations and they contradict each other. Planning and

Zoning would like to get rid of the ordinances in lieu of the Zoning Regulations as the Zoning regulations are more easily changed to reflect the current needs of the Town. Former BOF member Bruce Raymond spoke regarding some of the reasons the Fee Ordinance was originally passed. The Moderator called for a hand vote to repeal the Planning and Zoning Commission Fee Ordinance enacted in 2004 with the following results: Yes 17, No – 1. The motion passed.

2) Ordinance to Control Abandoned, Inoperative and Junk Motor Vehicles enacted in 1987. Jocelyn Chancy / Eugene Boomer moved / seconded. Selectman Cunningham explained that this item is also addressed in the Zoning regulations. Linkesh Diwan asked for clarification on the differences between the ordinance and the zoning regulations. Priscilla Diwan-Willey asked if the ordinance is regarding vehicles abandoned on public lands or privately owned lands and expressed concerns that the ordinance is overreaching. The Moderator called for a hand vote to repeal the Ordinance to Control Abandoned, Inoperative and Junk Motor Vehicles enacted in 1987 with the following results: Yes – 17, No – 4. The motion passed.

12. To approve a Resolution with an Agreement enabling participation in the C-PACE program. William Hooper / Jaclyn Chancy moved / seconded. Selectman Cunningham spoke about the C-PACE program and the Connecticut Green Bank. Questions were asked if Green Bank lends to agricultural businesses, if participating in the C-PACE program will create extra work, costs or benefits for the Town and if the Town will be responsible for helping Green Bank recoup costs if a borrower defaults. A question was asked regarding if the Agreement was available for public inspection in the Clerk's office. The Moderator called for a hand vote to approve a Resolution with an Agreement enabling participation in the C-PACE program with the following results: Yes – 16, No – 1. The motion passed.

13. *To discuss and determine, pursuant to the Police Protection Ordinance enacted July 20, 1998, whether the Selectmen may enter a contract with the State Police for a Resident State Trooper to serve the Town from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2019. Selectman Cunningham spoke about the Board of Selectmen's concern regarding the cost of the Trooper program and their desire to find out how the residents in Town feel and the decision to put the question on the ballot. Discussion centered around the benefits of having a Resident State Trooper vs. the cost and options available to the Town if the Trooper program is discontinued. Many spoke in support of and opposition to the program. Bruce Raymond – ROV asked for Attorney O'Brian's to send him his written legal opinion regarding having the advisory question on the ballot.

14. To adjourn the meeting after completion of the foregoing business. William Hooper / Jaclyn Chancy moved / seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 P.M.

*At its meeting held on April 26, 2017 the Board of Selectmen voted, pursuant to CGS § 7-7, that items #5 and #13 of the Call of the Annual Town Meeting be submitted to a referendum vote at an Adjourned Town Meeting to be held May 16, 2017 at the Chaplin Firehouse, 106 Phoenixville Road (Rte. 198) in said Chaplin from 12:00 Noon to 8:00 P.M. The question on

item #13 shall be advisory only, and the result not legally binding. The questions on the ballot label at said referendum shall read as follows:

1. "Shall the Town of Chaplin appropriate the sum of \$8,202,078 for the General Government and Education Expenditures for Fiscal Year July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 as recommended by the Board of Finance?"
2. "Should the Board of Selectmen enter a contract with the Connecticut State Police for a Resident State Trooper to serve the Town from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2019?"

Absentee ballots shall be available as provided by law to persons applying in person at the office of the Town Clerk during its regular business hours. Copies of the proposed Annual Town Budget and the proposed Ordinances and Resolution are available for inspection in the Office of the Town Clerk.

Dated at Chaplin, Connecticut, this 26th day of April 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Shari Smith, Chaplin Town Clerk