

Chaplin Board of Finance - May 1, 2020

Dear Chaplin Residents and Taxpayers,

The Board of Finance is pleased to recommend the following budget for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2020-21. We consider this budget to be financially sound and in the best interests of the Town's residents and all taxpayers.

The budget approval process will be very different this year due to limitations placed on public meetings under various Executive Orders issued by Governor Ned Lamont. Therefore, the Board of Finance is now authorized to approve the FY 2020-21 Chaplin Town and Board of Education budgets pursuant to a resolution adopted by the Board of Selectmen on April 9, 2020. The resolution appears as Appendix A to this letter.

Highlights of this proposed FY 2020-21 budget are as follows:

- **First and foremost, this budget maintains the current mill rate of 32.50 mills.**
- **A total Town Budget of \$8,883,373** has been approved by the Board of Finance.
 - This represents an approximate 2.48% increase from the current FY 2019-20 adjusted budget.
- **Total Revenues are projected to be \$9,060,432** based on the Governor's proposed budget which was submitted to the Legislature on February, NNN, 2020.
 - This represents an approximate 2.33% decrease from the current FY 2019-20 adjusted Revenue budget.
- **A budget surplus of \$177,059** is projected which will be added to the Town's Unassigned Fund Balance.
- **The Town's Unassigned Fund Balance is projected to be \$1,213,420** at fiscal year end (June 30, 2020).
 - This represents 13.66% of Expenditures, which exceeds the recommended range of 10-12%, but which will likely be needed in the next 1 to 2 years for additional infrastructure and bridge repairs.
 - Funds are also assigned to cover any tax revenue lost due to the financial impact of COVID-19.

A Budget Executive Summary follows this letter and this entire budget document is published on the Town web site. Printed copies will be available at the Town Hall, Library, and Senior Center when these town offices reopen. The budget document provides additional detail for the current year's adjusted FY 2019-20 budget, the **proposed FY 2020-21 budget**, and an "*estimated*" FY 2021-22 budget.

With approval of this budget for FY 2020-21, Chaplin will be in an excellent position to continue providing essential services, quality Education, enhanced Public Safety, and improved infrastructure to its citizens. In short, we can expect to continue enjoying the excellent quality of life that has drawn us to this fine community.

In closing, on behalf of the Board of Finance, I wish to thank the various Town agencies and our elected/appointed officials for their cooperation throughout this budget process. Finally, I extend the Board's gratitude to our Town Hall staff for their many hours of gracious assistance in preparing this budget for presentation to you.

Sincerely for the Board of Finance,
/s/

Richard G. Weingart

E-mail: bofinance@chaplintown.org

Matt Foster, Alternate

Peter Haines, Alternate

Bill Jenkins, Alternate

Members of the Board of Finance:

Victor Boomer

Linda Caron, Secretary

Link Diwan, Vice Chair

Kathy Scott, Recording Clerk

Doug Dubitsky

Jean Lambert

Dick Weingart, Chair

**TOWN OF CHAPLIN, CONNECTICUT
Board of Selectmen
Chaplin Town Hall
495 Phoenixville Road
Chaplin CT 06235**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF FINANCE TO ADOPT THE ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET
WITHOUT THE ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING AND REFERENDUM**

Pursuant to the authority provided to this Board of Selectmen by paragraph 13 of the March 21, 2020 Executive Order 7I, and paragraph 2 of the March 20, 2020 Executive Order 7H of the Governor of the State of Connecticut, it is RESOLVED that the Board of Finance of the Town of Chaplin is hereby authorized and required to promptly and timely adopt the annual Town budget of the Town of Chaplin for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, without the usual annual town meeting on the budget and subsequent referendum authorized or required by State law and local ordinance, but rather in compliance with said paragraph 13 of Executive Order 7I, and also with paragraph 1 of the March 14, 2020 Executive Order 7B of the Governor of the State of Connecticut, subject only to the further Order of the Governor and the subsequent Resolution of this Board.

So Moved by Anthony Pinto Selectman Second by Kenneth Fortier Selectman

Dated at Chaplin, Connecticut this 9th day of April, 2020