



# Town of China

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**China Select Board, Monday – 4/4/2022**  
**Special Select Board Meeting – 6:30 P.M. – Zoom and Livestream**

Select Board members present: Ronald Breton, Wayne Chadwick, Janet Preston, Blane Casey, and Jeanne Marquis. Absent: none. Town Manager: Rebecca Hapgood. Others Present: Brent & Cathy Chesley, and Mary Grow. Others Present via Zoom: Elizabeth Curtis.

Chairman Ronald Breton opened the meeting at 6:30 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

## MINUTES

- I. **New Business**
  - a. Discussion on emergency generator purchase - postponed.
- II. **Public Comment-** none
- III. **Select Board members' comments-** none
- IV. **Budget deliberations**
  - a. Discussed June 14, 2022, warrant articles of the ATBM- see attached draft of the Annual Town Business Meeting Warrant for recorded votes on each article.
- V. **Manager's Communications – (Non-Action Items)**
  - a. Date of regular meetings- April 11 & April 25 (Blane Casey & Janet Preston will be unable to attend)
- I. **Adjourn**

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Wayne Chadwick to adjourn at 8:23 pm; approved 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

  
Janet Preston  
Secretary, China Select Board

**Town of China, Maine**  
**Warrant of the Annual Town Business Meeting**

To Julie A. Finley, a resident of the Town of China, County of Kennebec and State of Maine:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of China, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the China Town Office Complex in said Town of China, on Tuesday, the 14<sup>th</sup> of June, A.D. 2022, at 6:55 in the morning, to elect a moderator to preside at said meeting and to vote on municipal articles/questions by secret ballot. Polling hours to be 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Article 1. To elect a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Article 2. Shall the Town vote to appropriate the following revenues in the amounts listed below to reduce the property tax assessment for fiscal year 2022/2023?

<b>Non-Property Tax Revenue</b>	
Excise Taxes	\$ 975,000.00
Revenue Sharing	\$ 535,000.00
Interest Income	\$ 47,500.00
Transfer Station Revenue	\$ 149,500.00
FirstPark	\$ 26,100.00
Other Town Revenue	\$ 203,300.00
<b>Total Estimated Revenue 2022-2023</b>	<b>\$ 1,936,400.00</b>

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Wayne Chadwick to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to appropriate up to **\$230,534** from **assigned fund balance** and up to **\$152,790** from **unassigned fund balance** to meet expenses and emergencies that occur during fiscal year 2022/2023.

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Wayne Chadwick to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$872,895** for **Administration** and **\$25,000** for **Accrued Compensation** expenses.

Motion by Wayne Chadwick and second by Janet Preston to recommends: YES with a vote of 3-2 (WC/BC)  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 5 ayes / 0 nays / 1 abstention

Draft of warrant to accompany the minutes for April 4, 2022, Select Board meeting minutes used to record Select Board voting results.

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$82,575** for **Boards and Committees** expenses.

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Jeanne Marquis recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$12,484** for **Association Dues**, the sum of **\$16,000** for **Welfare** and the sum of **\$11,332** for **Social Services** expenses.

Motion by Wayne Chadwick and second by Blane Casey to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$157,985** for **Assessing** expenses and **\$30,000** for **Legal** expenses.

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Wayne Chadwick to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$16,995** for **Animal Control** expenses, the sum of **\$34,000** for **Police** expenses and **\$42,057** for **Dispatch** expenses.

Motion by Wayne Chadwick and second by Janet Preston to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$166,755** for **Fire and Rescue Services** expenses.

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Wayne Chadwick to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 4 ayes / 0 nays / 2 abstentions

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$638,755** for **Transfer Station** expenses and appropriate demolition debris revenues received above estimated amounts in FY 2021/2022 to offset overages in the FY 2021/2022 demolition debris tipping expense account and authorize the assignment and transfer of the funds from the bulk storage tank carry forward of \$11,461 and transfer station furnace carry forward of \$2,700 to the transfer station capital reserve account.

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Jeanne Marquis to recommend: YES with a vote of 3-2  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

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Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,449,745** for **Public Works** expenses with an estimated \$52,000 in revenue received from the State of Maine's Local Road Assistance Program.

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Ronald Breton to recommend: YES with a vote of 3-2 (WC/BC)

Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 5 ayes / 0 nays / 1 abstention

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$92,000** for **Community Support Organizations** expenses.

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Wayne Chadwick to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0

Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 4 ayes / 0 nays / 2 abstentions

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$49,500** for **Cemetery Care** expenses.

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Wayne Chadwick to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0

Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 5 ayes / 0 nays / 1 abstention

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from undesignated fund balance **\$88,290** for **Contingency** expenses and any amounts unexpended during FY 2021/2022 will be credited to the appropriate assigned or unassigned fund balance.

Motion by Blane Casey and second by Wayne Chadwick to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0

Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$265,000** from tax increment (TIF) revenues for expenditure in accordance with that **Program**.

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Blane Casey to recommend: YES with a vote of 4-0-1 abstention (WC)

Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 5 ayes / 0 nays / 1 abstention

Article 16. For Articles 2 through 15, shall the Select Board be authorized to expend a portion of the appropriated/raised amount prior to the beginning of the 2022/2023 fiscal year or carry forward remaining amounts from 2021/2022 to the 2022/2023 budget as the Select Board deems prudent, and shall the Select Board be authorized to place unexpended funds as they deem in the best interests of the Town in related reserve accounts or reserve accounts they deem should be established, the funds from which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board?

Motion by Wayne Chadwick and second by Blane Casey to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0

Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

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Article 17. To see if the Town will vote that if any article herein does not pass, the amounts appropriated in FY 2021/2022 for the subject article shall be deemed adopted for FY 2022/2023.

Motion by Wayne Chadwick and second by Blane Casey to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 5 ayes / 1 nays

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate all money received from the State for snowmobile registrations to the China Four Season Club, for the maintenance of their network of snowmobile trails, on condition that those trails be open in the snow season to the public for outdoor recreation purposes after administration expenses of not more than \$1.00 per snowmobile.

Motion by Wayne Chadwick and second by Jeanne Marquis to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 5 ayes / 0 nays / 1 abstention

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to establish two (2) **Tax Payment due dates** to be Friday, September 30, 2022 and Friday, March 31, 2023, and to charge an **Interest Rate of four percent (4%)** per annum after each tax payment due date, at the daily rate of 0.0001096 for each day, or fraction thereof, the payment is overdue.

Motion by Wayne Chadwick and second by Blane Casey to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed, pursuant to 36 M.R.S. § 506.

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Blane Casey to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to raise and/or appropriate \$15,000 from **Overlay** to offset tax abatements and applicable interest granted throughout the year.

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Wayne Chadwick to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to sell and convey, by Warranty Deed or Quit Claim Deed, tax acquired properties, and to execute Waiver of Foreclosure documents as determined to be in the best interests of the Town of China, said authority to continue unless rescinded by voters, except that the Select Board shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. § 943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s).

Motion by Blane Casey and second by Wayne Chadwick to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board and/or the Town Manager to apply for, accept, and expend, without further action by Town Meeting, money from the State, federal or other governmental units or private sources which become available during the year, and to authorize the Select Board to accept, and/or expend on behalf of the Town, any and all unconditional gifts of any type of property; and to further authorize the Select Board to appropriate from TIF grant match funds any required match for approval of such grants throughout the year.

Motion by Wayne Chadwick and second by Blane Casey to table (to clarify wording) with a vote of 5-0

Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to use the proceeds of any payment on insurance claims for damages occurring to the Town owned real and personal property and to have the funds allocated to the municipal department whose property was damaged.

Motion by Wayne Chadwick and second by Blane Casey to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0

Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to negotiate and execute multi-year contracts *of not more than five years*, including but not limited to, contracts or agreements in the following areas: auditing, equipment purchasing, leasing and maintenance and roadside mowing.

Motion by Wayne Chadwick and second by Blane Casey to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Added *of not more than five years* per board request and motion.

Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 26. To see if the Town of China (Town) will vote to change the eligibility guidelines it set as of March 5, 1977 for membership in the Town's Participating Local District plan (P0235) as follows:

The Town votes to:

- A) Allow membership in the Maine Public Employees Retirement System's Participating Local District Plan to the Town's employees who work more than 35 hours per week, 52 weeks per year effective July 1, 2022. The Town previously only provided coverage to full-time employees working 40 hours or more per week, 52 weeks per year.
- B) Allow its newly eligible employees (ie. Those working more than 35 hours per week but less than 40 hours per week, 52 weeks per year) who elect to join MainePERS, to purchase prior service credit for employment with the Town before July 1, 2022 upon the employee's full payment of all associated costs. The Town of China will not participate in the purchase of prior service, and so employees are responsible for paying the full liability associated with this service.

- C) Continue to exclude all other employees from participation including; temporary and seasonal employees, election workers, elected officials and officials appointed for a fixed term from participating.
- D) Authorize Rebecca J. Hapgood, Town Manager, to sign the clarified Amended Agreement between the Town and the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

Motion by Wayne Chadwick and second by Janet Preston to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to sell the 2017 Ford Explorer police cruiser and use the revenue received to offset the 2022-2023 municipal budget.

Motion by Wayne Chadwick and second by Blane Casey to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to request bids, negotiate, trade, sell and/or purchase municipal vehicles, machinery and equipment as deemed to be in the best interest of the town.

Motion by Blane Casey and second by Jeanne Marquis to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to dispose of town-owned personal property with a value of \$3,000 or less, under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

Motion by Wayne Chadwick and second by Janet Preston to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$20,000 from Coronavirus **Local Fiscal Recovery Funds** (aka American Rescue Plan Act or ARPA funds) received by the Town from the federal government for the following project: Emergency generator for the old town hall and replacement emergency generator for the town office.

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Wayne Chadwick to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$38,000 from Coronavirus **Local Fiscal Recovery Funds** (aka American Rescue Plan Act or ARPA funds) received by the Town from the federal government for the following project: Emergency 911 signs for every residence.

Motion by Wayne Chadwick and second by Blane Casey to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0  
Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

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Article 32. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$33,000 from Coronavirus **Local Fiscal Recovery Funds** (aka American Rescue Plan Act or ARPA funds) received by the Town from the federal government for the following project: Digital sign to be located at the South China Fire Department fire station and used by the town and fire departments.

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Ronald Breton to recommend: YES with a vote of 3-2 (WC/BC)

Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 33. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$16,200 from Coronavirus **Local Fiscal Recovery Funds** (aka American Rescue Plan Act or ARPA funds) received by the Town from the federal government for the following project: Provide premium pay to eligible municipal workers.

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Jeanne Marquis to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0

Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 5 ayes / 1 nays

Article 34. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$5,000 from Coronavirus **Local Fiscal Recovery Funds** (aka American Rescue Plan Act or ARPA funds) received by the Town from the federal government for the following project: Senior events and activities.

Motion by Wayne Chadwick and second by Blane Casey to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0

Budget Committee Recommends: YES with a vote of 6 ayes / 0 nays

Article 35. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$20,000 from Coronavirus **Local Fiscal Recovery Funds** (aka American Rescue Plan Act or ARPA funds) received by the Town from the federal government for the following project: Portable digital sign for speed control and community announcements.

Motion by Wayne Chadwick and second by Ronald Breton to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0

Budget Committee Recommends: NO with a vote of 2 ayes / 3 nays / 1 abstention

Article 36. To see if the Town will vote to repeal the School Budget Ordinance adopted in 1998.

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Wayne Chadwick to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0

Article 37. To see if the town will enact an ordinance titled **Large Scale Solar Facilities Moratorium Ordinance**.

Motion by Blane Casey and second by Wayne Chadwick to remove the question from the draft ballot: YES 2-3 (RB/JP/JM)- motion fails.



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Motion by Blane Casey and second by Wayne Chadwick to recommend: NAY with a vote of 3-2 (JP/JM)

Article 38. To see if the town will vote to approve “Town of China, 2020 Comprehensive Plan” as found to be complete and consistent by the State of Maine, Municipal Planning Assistance Program on March 30, 2022.

Motion by Janet Preston and second by Blane Casey to recommend: YES with a vote of 5-0