

**Town of China minutes
for the Annual Town Business Meeting
Election format, June 13, 2023**

Article 2. Shall the Town vote to appropriate the following estimated municipal revenues in the amounts listed below to reduce the property tax assessment for fiscal year 2023/2024?
Passed with 285 yeas and 26 nays.

Non-Property Tax Revenue	
Excise Taxes	\$ 975,000.00
Other Town Revenue	\$ 162,001.00
Transfer Station Revenue	\$ 178,000.00
FirstPark	\$ 27,550.00
Total Estimated Revenue 2023-2024	\$ 1,342,551.00

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to appropriate up to \$166,607 from assigned fund balance and up to \$144,500 from unassigned fund balance to meet expenses during fiscal year 2023/2024.
Passed with 271 yeas and 41 nays.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,116,983 for Municipal Services expenses which includes \$20,000 to be appropriated from unassigned fund balance for the legal reserve account used at the discretion of the Select Board.
Passed with 224 yeas and 84 nays.

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$85,078 for Boards and Committees expenses and to see if the Town will vote to set the compensation for the Select Board members for the 2023-2024 fiscal year to \$0.
Passed with 243 yeas and 68 nays.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,800 for Social Services expenses.
Passed with 267 yeas and 45 nays.

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$340,645 for Public Safety expenses.
Passed with 256 yeas and 54 nays.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$671,045 for Transfer Station expenses which includes \$20,000 from unassigned fund balance to add to the compactor reserve account and, if necessary, appropriate demolition debris revenues received above estimated amounts in FY 2023/2024 to offset overages in the FY 2023/2024 demolition debris tipping expense account.

Passed with 257 yeas and 53 nays.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,630,700 for Public Works expenses with an estimated \$53,000 in revenue received from the State of Maine's Local Road Assistance Program and to include \$64,000 from unassigned fund balance to be assigned to the capital reserve account.

Passed with 260 yeas and 50 nays.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$105,100 for Community Support Organizations expenses.

Passed with 242 yeas and 68 nays.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from unassigned fund balance \$190,500 for Contingency expenses.

Passed with 231 and 78 nays.

Article 12. For Articles 2 through 11, shall the Select Board be authorized to expend a portion of the appropriated/raised amount prior to the beginning of the 2023/2024 fiscal year or carry forward remaining amounts from 2022/2023 to the 2023/2024 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?

Passed with 256 yeas and 54 nays.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote that if any article herein does not pass, the amounts appropriated in FY 2022/2023 for the subject article shall be deemed adopted for FY 2023/2024.

Passed with 253 yeas and 57 nays.

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$237,500 from tax increment (TIF) revenues for expenditure in accordance with that Program.

Passed with 238 yeas and 70 nays.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate all money received from the State for snowmobile registrations to the China Four Seasons 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.

Passed with 285 yeas and 24 nays.

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to establish two (2) Tax Payment due dates to be Friday, September 29, 2023 and Friday, March 29, 2024, and to charge an Interest Rate of eight percent (8%) per annum after each tax payment due date, at the daily rate of 0.00021 for each day, or fraction thereof, the payment is overdue.

Passed with 261 yeas and 49 nays.

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to set the interest rate to be paid by the town on abated taxes pursuant to 36 M. R. S. A Sections 506-A at 4%.

Passed with 267 yeas and 42 nays.

Article 18. 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.A. § 506.

Passed with 283 yeas and 25 nays.

Article 19. 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.

Passed with 254 yeas and 53 nays.

Article 20. 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.A. § 943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s).

Passed with 262 yeas and 42 nays.

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board 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 becomes 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.

Passed with 255 yeas and 49 nays.

Article 22. 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.

Passed with 275 yeas and 29 nays.

Article 23. 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.

Passed with 263 yeas and 42 nays.

Article 24. 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.

Passed with 271 yeas and 34 nays.

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of town-owned personal property with a value of \$3,000 or less, under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

Passed with 270 yeas and 35 nays.

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to make final determinations regarding the closing or opening of roads to winter maintenance pursuant to 23 M.R.S.A. § 2953

Passed with 271 yeas and 33 nays.

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$13,900 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: Codification of municipal ordinances.

Passed with 189 yeas and 115 nays.

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$100,000 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: Fireproof vault for municipal records.

Passed with 246 yeas and 63 nays.

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate an amount up to \$43,000 from unassigned fund balance for the municipal records fireproof vault storage project.

Passed with 230 yeas and 78 nays.

Article 30. Shall an ordinance entitled "Town of China Solid Waste Ordinance" be enacted?

Passed with 234 yeas and 70 nays.

Article 31. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to negotiate and enter into agreements on behalf of the Town for ambulance services and a public safety answering point (PSAP), under such terms and conditions as the Select Board may deem advisable.

Passed with 282 yeas and 27 nays.

Article 32. Shall amendments to the “Town of China Land Development Code, Chapter 9. Appeals” be enacted?

Passed with 185 yeas and 120 nays.

Kelly Grotton, Moderator, closed polls at 8:00pm, with a total voter participation of 313 consisting of 90 absentee votes while 223 voted on Election Day.

Respectfully submitted,


Angela Nelson, Town Clerk