

**Town of China Minutes for
the Annual Town Business Meeting
Election Format, June 11, 2024**

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 2024/2025?
Passed with 450 yeas and 56 nays.

Non-Property Tax Revenue	
Excise Taxes	\$ 990,000.00
Other Town Revenue	\$ 964,922.00
Transfer Station Revenue	\$ 190,000.00
FirstPark	\$ 27,000.00
Total Estimated Revenue 2024-2025	\$ 2,171,922.00

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to appropriate up to **\$550,000** from **unassigned fund balance** and **\$268,578** from **State Revenue Sharing Carryforward** to meet expenses during fiscal year 2024/2025.
Passed with 437 yeas and 77 nays.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,184,525** for **Administration** expenses.
Passed with 349 yeas and 162 nays.

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$84,220** for **Boards and Committees** expenses and to see if the Town will vote to set the compensation for the Select Board members for the 2024-2025 fiscal year to \$0.
Passed with 382 yeas and 130 nays.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$28,795** for **Social Services** expenses.
Passed with 384 yeas and 117 nays.

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$420,931** for **Public Safety** expenses.
Passed with 393 yeas and 106 nays.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$666,325** for **Transfer Station** expenses.
Passed with 364 yeas and 136 nays.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,848,100** for **Public Works** expenses with an estimated **\$60,000** in revenue received from the State of Maine's Local Road Assistance Program.

Passed with 387 yeas and 111 nays.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$74,000** for **Community Support Organizations** expenses.

Passed with 355 yeas and 145 nays.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from unassigned fund balance **\$233,000** for **Contingency** expenses.

Passed with 351 yeas and 149 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 2024/2025 fiscal year or carry forward remaining amounts from 2023/2024 to the 2024/2025 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 369 yeas and 132 nays.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote that if any article herein does not pass, the amounts appropriated in FY 2023/2024 for the subject article shall be deemed adopted for FY 2024/2025.

Passed with 385 yeas and 124 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 354 yeas and 155 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 439 yeas and 70 nays.

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to establish two (2) **Tax Payment due dates** to be Monday, September 30, 2024, and Monday, March 31, 2025, and to charge an **Interest Rate** of **eight and one-half percent (8.5%)** per annum after each tax payment due date, at the daily rate of 0.0002329 for each day, or fraction thereof, the payment is overdue.

Passed with 405 yeas and 103 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 Section 506-A at four and one-half percent (4.5%) per annum.

Passed with 412 yeas and 95 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 432 yeas and 56 nays.

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to raise and/or appropriate \$20,000 from **Overlay** to offset tax abatements and applicable interest granted throughout the year.

Passed with 373 yeas and 111 nays.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of tax acquired property as they deem in the best interests of the Town of China, except that the Select Board shall first use the sale process in 36 M.R.S.A. § 943-C if they choose to sell property to anyone other than the former owner. For sales to someone other than the former owner, excess sale proceeds, as defined in 36 M.R.S.A. § 943-C, shall be returned to the former owner, said authority to continue unless rescinded by voters.

Passed with 419 yeas and 67 nays.

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

Passed with 396 yeas and 89 nays.

Article 22. 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 380 yeas and 106 nays.

Article 23. 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 439 yeas and 48 nays.

Article 24. 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 395 yeas and 92 nays.

Article 25. 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 interests of the town.

Passed with 441 yeas and 68 nays.

Article 26. 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 434 yeas and 73 nays.

Article 27. 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 431 yeas and 75 yeas.

Article 28. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to negotiate and enter into agreements on behalf of the Town for ambulance services under such terms and conditions as the Select Board may deem advisable.

Passed with 445 yeas and 63 nays.

Article 29. Shall the voters of the town repeal the ordinance entitled “Planning Board Ordinance” revised June 10, 2008, and enact an ordinance entitled “**Town of China Planning Board Ordinance**”? *(A copy of the ordinance is posted together with this warrant and hereby incorporated into the warrant by reference.)*

Passed with 396 yeas and 106 nays.

Article 30. Shall amendments to the ordinance entitled “**Town of China Land Development Code, Chapter 2. Land Use Ordinance, Chapter 3. Subdivision Ordinance and Chapter 11. Definitions**” be enacted? *(A copy of the ordinance is posted together with this warrant and hereby incorporated into the warrant by reference.)*

Passed with 346 yeas and 145 nays.

Article 31. Shall an ordinance entitled “**Town of China Land Development Code, Chapter 8. Solar Energy Systems Ordinance**” be enacted? *(A copy of the ordinance is posted together with this warrant and hereby incorporated into the warrant by reference.)*

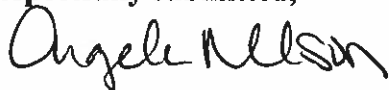
Passed with 331 yeas and 163 nays.

Article 32. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$155,489 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: **Municipal records fireproof vault storage**, and appropriate \$70,000 from undesignated fund balance for a broadband project; provided that no ARPA funds will be spent for a broadband project without action by Town Meeting.

Passed with 357 yeas and 140 nays.

Kelly Grotton, Moderator, closed polls at 8:00pm, with a total voter participation of 517, consisting of 101 absentee votes while 416 voted on Election Day.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angela Nelson".

Angela Nelson, Town Clerk

