

**TOWN OF CHESTER
WARNING
NOTICE OF TOWN MEETING**

The Legal Voters of the TOWN OF CHESTER are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Chester Town Hall, Second Floor in said Town of Chester on Monday, February 29, 2016, at 6:00 pm., to act on the following Articles. Voting on Article 1, 2 and 3 will be by Australian ballot on March 1, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall Second Floor.

ARTICLE 1: To elect Town Officials for the ensuing year as provided by the Public Laws of Vermont and citizens to serve on the Budget Committee (Australian Ballot).

ARTICLE 2: Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Sixty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$269,900.00), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of purchasing the following capital items: \$8,500.00 for the purchase of a mower for the Cemetery Department; \$45,400.00 for the replacement of the pool decking for the Recreation Department; \$40,000.00 for the purchase of replacement hose for the Fire Department; \$18,500.00 for the purchase of two air paks for the Fire Department; \$11,000.00 for the purchase of washer/dryer unit for the Fire Department; \$15,000.00 for the purchase of a thermal camera for the Fire Department; \$70,000.00 for the upgrades to an existing pump station on Elm Street for the Sewer Department; \$30,000.00 for the purchase of a pickup truck for the Sewer Department; and \$31,500.00 for the replacement of fire hydrants for the Water Department. (Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 3: Shall general obligation bonds of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$220,000.00), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, be issued for the purpose of paving approximately 5,300 feet of roadway. (Australian Ballot)

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to accept gifts and trust funds for perpetual care of cemetery lots in accordance with conditions of said gifts and trusts as follows: Joyce A. Daniels, \$250.00; Gordon and Gloria Snide, \$250.00; Michael and Christine Copping, \$250.00; Delores Robinson, \$250.00; Gail Stewart, \$250.00; Donald R. Farrar Estate, \$250.00; Paul F. and Norma J. Ippolito, \$500.00.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise \$2,847,925.67 to be paid to the Chester Town Treasurer on September 15, 2016, to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to expend from the Capital Budget Reserve Fund, \$452,323.89 to be allocated as follows: \$6,500.00 for the purchase of fencing

for Cobleigh Field for the Recreation Department; \$10,000.00 for the resurfacing and repainting of the basketball court for the Recreation Department; \$8,000.00 for the refurbishing of the Compressor at the Fire Department; \$7,500.00 for the purchase of pagers for the Fire Department; \$85,111.00 for the lease payment for the Fire Truck; \$133,000.00 for the purchase of a dump truck for the Highway Department; \$49,046.00 for the payment of the loader lease for the Highway Department; \$20,000.00 for the purchase of a pickup truck for the Highway Department; \$54,166.89 for the payment of sidewalk renovations; \$20,000.00 for the first payment for the renovations to Whiting Library; \$20,000.00 for improvements to the Town Hall building; and \$39,000.00 for the purchase of a Cruiser for the Police Department all as indicated on the Capital Budget Program schedule and less any grant funds that may be received.

- ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to exempt from municipal and education taxes, for a period of five years, 100% of the Fair Market Value of lands and buildings occupied by the Chester Rod & Gun Club, Inc.
- ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town will vote to exempt from municipal and education taxes, for a period of five years, 100% of the Fair Market Value of lands and buildings occupied by the Green Mountain Softball League.
- ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to exempt from municipal and education taxes, for a period of five years, 100% of the Fair Market Value of lands and buildings occupied by the Olive Branch Lodge.
- ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will appropriate the sum of \$8,649.00 to the Springfield Regional Development Corporation.
- ARTICLE 11:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THIRTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVEN DOLLARS (\$13,807) to help support the home health, maternal and child health, and hospice care provided in patients' homes and in community settings by the **Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of VT and NH**. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 12:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND AND FORTY FOUR DOLLARS (\$3,044) to help support outpatient, mental health and substance abuse services by the staff of **Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, Inc.** This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 13:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND FORTY DOLLARS (\$3,040) to **Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA)** to assist Chester in responding to the emergency needs of the community and providing all available and applicable services to families and individuals in need. This article is by petition.

- ARTICLE 14:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$900) to the Women’s Freedom Center for general budget support to provide services to women and their children who are experiencing emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse and are residents of the Town. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 15:** Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,200.00) for the support of Senior Solutions (formerly Council on Aging for Southeastern Vermont) for help to support seniors and their families who are trying to remain at home and not be placed in a nursing home. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 16:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$2,700 (two thousand seven hundred dollars) to assist with the cost of operating the Meals on Wheels Program of Greater Springfield that provides daily hot and cold congregate and home delivered meals and other nutritional needs to the qualified residents of Chester. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 17:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$2,250 (two thousand two hundred fifty dollars) for the support of the Current operated by Connecticut River Transit, Inc., to provide transit services to the residents of the Town of Chester. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 18:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$800 (eight hundred dollars) to support Windsor County Partners, for youth mentoring services provided to children in Windsor County. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 19:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$400 (four hundred dollars) to Green Mountain RSVP & Volunteer Center of Windsor County to develop opportunities for people age 55 and older to positively impact the quality of life in the community of Chester through volunteer service. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 20:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,800.00) toward the support of the Community Cares Network of Chester and Andover, Inc. a non-profit organization which provides services to senior citizens, helping them to stay in their homes longer safely. This article is by petition.
- ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town of Chester will appropriate the sum of THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000) to assist in the services of the Chester-Andover Family Center for individuals and families in need. This article is by petition.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to borrow money in anticipation of taxes to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness.

ARTICLE 23: To act on the reports of the Town Officers for the year ending December 31, 2015.

ARTICLE 24: To transact any other business deemed proper when met, not including the expenditures of Town Funds or other business acted upon in the preceding Articles.

Dated at Chester, Vermont on this ____ day of January, 2016.

_____/s/ John DeBenedetti, Chairman

_____/s/ Tom Bock

_____/s/ William Lindsay

_____/s/ Heather Chase

_____/s/ Arne Jonynas