

Town of China
Warrant for the Annual Town Business Meeting

To Julie 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 Middle School in said Town of China on Saturday, the 22nd day of March, A.D. 2014 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning to elect a moderator to preside at said meeting and to vote on town issues.

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

Article 2. Shall the town entertain a presentation up to 5 minutes each from the **China Comprehensive Plan Thurston Park II Committee** and the **China Library Feasibility Committee** representatives regarding the progress of proposed implementation of the China Comprehensive Plan as it relates to each respective Committee?

Select Board Recommends: YES

Article 3. Shall the Town entertain a presentation up to 5 minutes from **FIRSTPARK** representatives?

Select Board Recommends: YES

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to exceed the property tax levy limit of \$1,317,634.99 established for China by State Law **(LD#1)** in the event that the municipal budget approved under the following articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the current property tax levy limit. (The request is driven by extraordinary circumstances outside the control of the municipal legislative body; in this particular case, the potential reduction in the traditional and expected State subsidies (Revenue Sharing, Homestead Exemptions, Excise Taxes on Commercial Vehicles, and the BETE program) to China.) The amount noted above will be the new core municipal commitment going forward.

Select Board Recommends: YES
Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 5. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Administration** and **Administration Other** expenses.

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|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Select Board Recommends: | Administration | \$373,150 |
| | Administration Other | \$103,900 |
| Budget Committee Recommends: | Administration | \$373,150 |
| | Administration Other | \$103,900 |

Article 6. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Planning Board Expenses, Maine Municipal Association Dues, Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Dues**, and the **Kennebec Valley Council of Governments**; any remaining balance in the Planning Board budget at the end of the fiscal year to lapse to a Planning Board Account of the Reserve Fund, the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board for

Planning Board Operations; said Planning Board Account to be capped at \$8,000.

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|---------|
| Select Board Recommends: | Planning Board Expenses | \$2,363 |
| | Maine Municipal Association Dues | \$4,800 |
| | Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Dues | \$600 |
| | Kennebec Valley Council of Governments | \$6,917 |
| Budget Committee Recommends: | Planning Board Expenses | \$2,363 |
| | Maine Municipal Association Dues | \$4,800 |
| | Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Dues | \$600 |
| | Kennebec Valley Council of Governments | \$6,917 |

Article 7. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and or appropriate for the **Municipal Capital and Equipment Account of the Reserve Fund** (established for the purpose of major capital repairs and purchasing and/or repairing vehicles to be used for snow plowing, grading, transfer station operations, and other public purposes), the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board, and these appropriated funds to be combined with the funds presently in said Reserve Fund (\$92,968 as of 06/30/2013) and to be designated Municipal Capital and Equipment Account of the Reserve Fund (said purpose noted above).

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|------------------------------|---|
| Select Board Recommends: | \$75,000 |
| | (\$15,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance) |
| Budget Committee Recommends: | \$75,000 |
| | (\$15,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance) |

Article 8. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Contracted **Assessing and Legal Services**; any remaining balance in the legal budget the end of the fiscal year to lapse into the Legal Account of the Reserve Fund, the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board for legal services.

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|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| Select Board Recommends: | Assessing Services | \$47,500 |
| | Legal Services | \$12,500 |
| Budget Committee Recommends: | Assessing Services | \$47,500 |
| | Legal Services | \$12,500 |

Article 9. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise or appropriate for **Computer Hardware and Software** for the Town Office.

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|------------------------------|----------|
| Select Board Recommends: | \$23,000 |
| Budget Committee Recommends: | \$23,000 |

Article 10. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Police Services** and **Animal Control Officer Services** to include supplies and vehicle maintenance in support of services.

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|------------------------------|----------|
| Select Board Recommends: | \$25,446 |
| Budget Committee Recommends: | \$25,446 |

Article 11. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and or appropriate for the **Volunteer Fire Departments, China Rescue and PSAP (E-911 Call Answering)** and **Dispatch Services** to be allocated in the following manner; any

remaining balance in any department at the end of the fiscal year to lapse into the Reserve Account for the Respective Department/Service in the Reserve Fund, the fund in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board; to be used for operating expenses only:

| | Amount Requested: | Select Board Recommends: | | Budget Committee Recommends: | |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| South China VFD | \$21,000 | \$21,000 | | \$21,000 | |
| China Village VFD | \$22,000 | \$22,000 | | \$22,000 | |
| Weeks Mills VFD | \$17,204 | \$17,204 | | \$17,204 | |
| Weeks Mills VFD Building Reserve | \$5,000 | \$5,000 UDFB* | | \$5,000 UDFB* | |
| | | SB shall consider Equity Position | | SB shall consider Equity Position | |
| China Rescue | \$20,000 | \$13,000 | | \$10,000 | |
| | | \$6,000 from | | \$6,000 from | |
| | | Rescue Reserve | | Rescue Reserve | |
| PSAP/E-911 Calls | \$19,500 | \$19,500 | | \$19,500 | |
| Dispatching Service | \$26,500 | \$26,500 | | \$26,500 | |
| Totals: | \$131,204 | \$130,204 | | \$127,204 | |
| * from Undesignated Fund Balance | | | | | |

Article 12. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Fire Department Capital Equipment Account of the Reserve Fund**, the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board for fire departments' capital purchases or major capital repairs, e.g. SCBA Equipment, Capital Improvements/Repairs to Vehicles, etc.; the Select Board shall require equity positions associated with capital expenditures, singularly or collectively above \$2,500.

Select Board Recommends: \$6,000
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$6,000

Article 13. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Insurance and Unemployment Compensation Premiums and Emergency Services Insurance**.

Select Board Recommends: **Insurance and Unemployment Compensation Premiums** \$239,245
Emergency Services Insurance \$15,982
 Budget Committee Recommends: **Insurance and Unemployment Compensation Premiums** \$239,245
Emergency Services Insurance \$15,982

Article 14. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and or appropriate for **payment on the debt (principal & interest) incurred on the purchase of the Town's China Rescue Vehicle.**

Select Board Recommends: \$17,000
 (\$5,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance)
Budget Committee Recommends: \$17,000
 (\$5,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance)

Article 15. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Solid Waste Disposal/China Transfer Station Operations.**

Select Board Recommends: \$281,528
Budget Committee Recommends: \$281,528

Article 16. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Road Maintenance**; highways, bridges & gravel roads, paving, and winter road maintenance and to further authorize the Select Board to expend a portion of the appropriated/raised amount prior to the beginning of the 2014/2015 fiscal year or carry-forward remaining amounts as of 06/30/2014 as they deem to be in the best interest of the Town of China.

Select Board Recommends: \$698,012
 (\$59,000 from highway grant & \$639,012 from excise taxes)
Budget Committee Recommends: \$698,012
 (\$59,000 from highway grant & \$639,012 from excise taxes)

Article 17. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Street Signs** and **Street Lights** (monthly/annual CMP kw/hr. fees).

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|------------------------------|----------------------|---------|
| Select Board Recommends: | Street Signs | \$2,500 |
| | Street Lights | \$7,000 |
| Budget Committee Recommends: | Street Signs | \$2,500 |
| | Street Lights | \$7,000 |

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to earmark the balance, after administration expenses, of the **Snowmobile Registration Tax Refund** from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to the China Four Seasons Club. The cost allocated to administration is not to exceed \$3.00 per snowmobile.

Board Recommends: YES
Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 19. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Recreation** and to have any remaining balance in the current budget lapse into the Recreation Account of the Reserve Fund, the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board for Recreational Capital Needs/Activities/Programs said Recreation Account to be capped at \$15,000.

Select Board Recommends: \$22,950
Budget Committee Recommends: \$22,950

Article 20. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Welfare Account.**

Board Recommends: \$14,500
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$14,500

Article 21. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **China Historical Society** toward the cost of utilities and repairs for the Old Town Meeting House and for Historical Society Outreach Programs.

Board Recommends: \$6,000
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$6,000

Article 22. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **South China Library and the Albert Church Brown Library.**

Select Board Recommends:
South China Library \$4,500
Albert Church Brown Library \$100
 Budget Committee Recommends:
South China Library \$4,500
Albert Church Brown Library \$100

Article 23. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the following **Social Service and Non-Profit Agencies:**

| | Select Board Recommends: | Budget Committe Recommends: |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Family Violence | \$1,750 | \$2,000 |
| KVCAP Demand Response Transport | \$0 | \$545 |
| Spectrum Generations | \$2,276 | \$2,276 |
| Kennebec Behavioral Health | \$2,000 | \$2,000 |
| Children's Center | \$1,500 | \$1,500 |
| Sexual Assault Crisis & Support | \$1,437 | \$1,437 |
| Waterville Boys & Girls Club | \$1,000 | \$1,000 |
| Hospice Volunteers of Waterville Area | \$1,650 | \$1,650 |
| Healthy Hearts | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$1,000</u> |
| | \$11,613 | \$13,408 |

Article 24. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Kennebec Valley Humane Society.**

Select Board Recommends: \$6,982
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$6,982

Article 25. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the purpose of maintaining **Cemeteries** and **for Memorial Day and Veterans Grave Marker expenses**; said money for grave marker expenses to be divided equally between the China and South China Legion Posts and to further authorize the Select Board to repurchase and resell Cemetery lots within existing cemeteries as they deem to be in the best interest of the Town of China, said authority to continue unless rescinded by voters.

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|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|
| Select Board Recommends: | Cemeteries | \$23,000 |
| | Grave Marker Expenses | \$950 |
| Budget Committee Recommends: | Cemeteries | \$23,000 |
| | Grave Marker Expenses | \$950 |

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to establish two (2) **Tax Payment Due Dates** to be September 30, 2014 and March 31, 2015 and to charge an **Interest Rate** of seven percent (7.0%) per annum after each tax payment due date, with interest to be calculated daily at the rate of 0.00019178082 for each day or fraction thereof that each payment is overdue; and to further see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen 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, and to further authorize the tax collector or treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506.

Select Board Recommends: YES
 Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from Unassigned Fund Balance an amount not to exceed \$55,000 for the purpose of using these funds as the required **matching funds in successful Grant Applications** and to further authorize the Selectmen to apply for and accept funds from the State of Maine, Federal Government, and any other duly authorized authority.

Select Board Recommends: YES
 Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 28. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Lake Restoration** expenses and to further authorize the Select Board to expend a portion of the raised/appropriated amount prior to the beginning of the 2014/2015 fiscal year as they deem to be in the best interest of the Town of China. (Any proposed expenditure to advance an interest in real property is to have prior Select Board approval.)

Select Board Recommends: \$30,000
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$30,000

Article 29. To see if the Town will appropriate an amount not to exceed \$45,000 from the overlay and or unassigned fund balance to serve as a **Contingency Fund** to be spent by the Select Board on unanticipated expenses and emergencies and to avoid overdrafts that may occur during this fiscal year.

Select Board Recommends: YES
 Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 30. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise and or appropriate for the purpose of funding **China Community Days** events and to allow any remaining balance to lapse into the China Community Days account of the reserve fund at the end of the fiscal year; the funds in which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board, and said appropriation to become available in the current fiscal budget year.

Select Board Recommends: \$2,500
(From Unassigned Fund Balance)
Budget Committee Recommends: \$2,500
(From Unassigned Fund Balance)

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate an amount not to exceed \$2,700 from Unassigned Fund Balance for the purpose of preserving the **Historical Records** in the Town of China.

Select Board Recommends: YES
Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 32. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed \$1072 for the purpose of compensating the **Town Health Officer** for services provided.

Select Board Recommends: YES
Budget Committee Recommends: YES

Article 33. To see what sum the Town will vote to appropriate from Unassigned Fund Balance for the purpose of adding to the **Unfunded Accrued Compensated Balance Reserve Account in the Fund Balance/ Designated Fund Balance** to finance the unfunded accrued compensated balances of the Town.

Select Board Recommends: \$5,000 (From Unassigned Fund Balance)
Budget Committee Recommends: \$5,000 (From Unassigned Fund Balance)

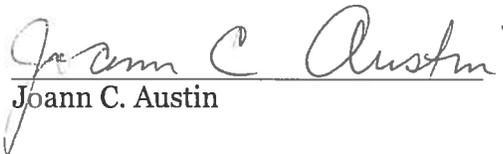
Given under our hands this 24th day of February, AD 2014


Peter G. Foote - Chairman


Amber McAllister


Irene L. Belanger


Paul E. MacDonald


Joann C. Austin

Warrant for Annual Town Business Meeting - March 22, 2014