

**Town of China**  
**Minutes for the Annual Town Business Meeting**  
**Election Format, July 14, 2020**

A written ballot election was held in place of the normal open town meeting format, due to the COVID-19 large gathering restrictions, on Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 7:00 a.m. at the China Town Office Portable Building, 571 Lakeview Drive, on the following ballot questions:

**Question 1.** To see if the Town will vote to exceed the 2020-2021 property tax levy limit of \$1,697,180.00 established for China under 30-A M.R.S. § 5721-A, 7.A.

**Passed with 604 yeas and 390 nays**

**Question 2.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 541,815.00 for Administration, the sum of \$ 217,218.00 for Administration, Other, and \$25,000 for Accrued Compensation expenses.

**Passed with 604 yeas and 386 nays**

**Question 3.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$73,630.00 for Boards and Committees expenses.

**Passed with 618 yeas and 367 nays**

**Question 4.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,501.00 for Association Dues, the sum of \$16,000.00 for Welfare, and the sum of \$10,700.00 for Social Services expenses.

**Passed with 739 yeas and 258 nays**

**Question 5.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$128,835.00 for Assessing expenses.

**Passed with 564 yeas and 424 nays**

**Question 6.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for \$20,000.00 for Legal expenses.

**Passed with 672 yeas and 270 nays**

**Question 7.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$93,875 for Police and Animal Control expenses.

**Passed with 652 yeas and 300 nays**

**Question 8.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 138,005.00 for Fire and Rescue Services expenses.

**Passed with 876 yeas and 76 nays**

**Question 9.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$599,834 for Transfer Station expenses.

**Passed with 674 yeas and 274 nays**

**Question 10.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,226,604.00 for Public Works expenses.

**Passed with 713 yeas and 231 nays**

**Question 11.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 139,500.00 for Community Support Organizations expenses.

**Passed with 590 yeas and 351 nays**

**Question 12.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$24,000.00 for Cemetery Care expenses.

**Passed with 780 yeas and 167 nays**

**Question 13.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$55,000.00 for Contingency expenses.

**Passed with 634 yeas and 312 nays**

**Question 14.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$39,000.00 for FirstPark expenses.

**Passed with 525 yeas and 459 nays**

**Question 15.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 551,620.00 for Program Development Fund (TIF) expenses.

**Passed with 582 yeas and 394 nays**

**Question 16.** For Questions 2 through 15, shall the Select Board be authorized to expend a portion of the appropriated/raised amount prior to the beginning of the 2020/2021 fiscal year or carry forward remaining amounts, and shall the Select Board be authorized to place such 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 which may be used upon a majority vote of a quorum of the Select Board?

**Passed with 710 yeas and 275 nays**

**Question 17.** Shall the estimated amounts for revenues indicated in the ANNUAL BUDGET be raised and or appropriated to support the expenses approved in Questions 2 through 15, and shall the Select Board be authorized to appropriate surplus revenues in support of such unforeseen expenses or revenue shortages as they deem to be in the best interests of the Town, and shall all other surplus funds not otherwise designated to reserve accounts be deposited to the credit of the UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE?

**Passed with 710 yeas and 275 nays**

**Question 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.

**Passed with 716 yeas and 217 nays**

**Question 19.** To see if the Town will vote to establish two (2) Tax Payment due dates to be Friday, September 25, 2020 and Friday, March 26, 2021, and to charge an **Interest Rate of four and one-half percent (4.5%)** per annum after each tax payment due date, at the **daily rate of 0.0001232877** for each day, or fraction thereof, the payment is overdue.

**Passed with 741 yeas and 197 nays**

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

**Passed with 748 yeas and 180 nays**

**Question 21.** 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, at a rate of 0.00% interest per annum, and to further authorize the Select Board to appropriate from Overlay to offset abatements granted throughout the year.

**Passed with 798 yeas and 135 nays**

**Question 22.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the town manager to apply for grants in support of town operations, and to further authorize the Select Board to appropriate from TIF grant match funds to provide any required match for approval of such grants throughout the year.

**Passed with 809 yeas and 132 nays**

**Question 23.** To see if the Town vote to set the effective date for Questions 2 through 22 retroactive to July 1, 2020.

**Passed with 788 yeas and 147 nays**

Kelly Grotton, Moderator, closed polls at 8:00 pm, with a total voter participation of 1,002 consisting of 639 absentee votes while 363 voted on Election Day.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Hapgood, Town Clerk