

## 2020 TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Moderator William Dakin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Moderator Dakin asked if there was any objection to nonvoters speaking. There was no objection. Moderator Dakin introduced the Selectboard, Lee Gustafson, Ben Whalen, Leigh Dakin, Heather Chase and Arne Jonynas, Town Manager David Pisha and Town Clerk Deborah Aldrich and read the warning.

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, March 2, 2020, at 6:00 pm., to act on the following Articles. Voting on Article 1 and 2 will be by Australian ballot on March 3, 2020, 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. (Australian Ballot).

**ARTICLE 2:** Shall general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed One Hundred Fifty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$157,500), subject to reduction from the receipt of available state and federal grants-in-aid, as well as any trade in value, be issued for the purpose of purchasing a backhoe for the Highway Department? Said backhoe to be financed for a term of 10 years. (Australian Ballot)

Alison Clarkson, State Senator, spoke and encouraged people to participate in the census and discussed accomplishments made in Montpelier; Minimum wage, Marijuana, Act 250 Reform, Housing, Relaxing Permitting, Economic Development, Student Debt, Under Pay in VT, EMS Volunteers, Criminal Justice Reform.

Tom Bock, State Representative, complimented the Town on the beautiful work on the upstairs. Representative Bock advised that his Town Meeting Report and a bulletin from Dept of Health was in the hallway.

**ARTICLE 3:** 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: Robert and Carol Ploof, \$250.00; Linda Morton, \$250.00; George and Elizabeth Hazen, \$250.00; Ronald P. and Adrienne M. Farrar, \$250.00; Robert Gosselin, \$250.00. **Carla Westine moved Article 3 as written. Seconded by Nora Ellen Spaulding. Article 3 voted in the affirmative.**

**ARTICLE 4:** To see if the Town will vote to raise \$3,351,306.26 to be paid to the Chester Town Treasurer on September 15, 2020, to pay current expenses and any part of the Town's indebtedness. **Nora Ellen moved Article 4 as written. Seconded by Carla Westine. Town Manager David Pisha presented a power point explaining the budget. (Copy attached.) The 2020 budget is up by \$263,000.00. Peter Hudkins asked if this number includes all the numbers, such as do the Fire, Police and all departments show capital money transfers? Town Manager Pisha replied that all departments expenditures show in their budgets. The Police Departments, capital money transfer, will show next year. Each department going forward, will show these transfers. Chairman Arne Jonynas advised this is the first year you are seeing it. Charles Giurtino asked where the town was at with the gravel pit. Chairman Jonynas explained that there was an Act 250 Hearing last week. The Commission has ten days to respond with merits. Depending on their response,**

will determine what the next step is, hopefully in the spring the Town will be able to get started. Tom Hildreth asked if the Town would be publishing the detailed plan. Town Manager Pisha replied yes. Hours of operation, on the application, are from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday. There are plans to keep the trucks back up alarm's quieter, a stipulation for crushing only happening when school is not in session, two to three weeks during the summer. The extraction area is limited to five acres. Townshend Gilbert asked if the Public Works had a base line for budgeting and if the Town was taking climate change into consideration. Town Manager Pisha replied yes. Mr. Gilbert advised that the Board should consider having a cubic yardage amount in reserve instead of a dollar amount.

Derek Suursoo advised that he was looking for the balance sheet and could not find one in the Town Report. Town Manager Pisha advised he would have one available at Town Hall.

Deb Epler asked the Board to monitor Departments more closely. Mrs. Epler also asked if the employees contribute to their health benefits. Town Manager Pisha advised that the Selectboard does watch the budgets of each Department closely. Town Manager Pisha advised that the employees have a health plan only, no vision, no dental and the health plan is at no cost to the employee. Every year the cost is looked at. MVP is up 6% this year. Cost has been kept at where it was in 2008. Charles Guirtino asked if there had been discussion to have employees pay copays. Chairman Jonynas advised that the Selectboard has had discussions for the last few years. It is getting harder and harder to keep the health cost down and it is a national problem. We value our employees and their hard work.

Peter Hudkins asked what the percentage increase in taxes was going to be. Town Manager Pisha advised six cents, 8 or 9% increase. Mr. Hudkins asked how the Selectboard would get that down to 3%? Chairman Jonynas advised that you can pay for it now or in a couple of years. We have been having meetings about the budget for months.

William Lindsay asked where money, in the amount of \$71,000.00, from the Hurricane Irene Fund, had been spent? Town Manager Pisha advised on the gravel project.

**Article 4 passed in the affirmative.**

**ARTICLE 5:**

To see if the Town will vote to expend from the Capital Budget Reserve Fund, \$452,074.84 to be allocated as follows: \$35,000 to be used for the purchase of air paks (\$22,500) and turnout gear (\$12,500) for the Fire Department; \$5,000 to be used to purchase signage for the town; \$60,000 to be used as grant matching funds for repairs to Route 35; \$15,650 as payment on the Backhoe loan (see article 2); \$32,375 as payment on the Loader loan for the Highway Department (loan previously approved); \$96,000 for repairs to Palmer Bridge to be financed over a period of 4 years with each payment being \$25,795; and \$278,254.84 as a transfer to the Bond Plan; all as indicated on the Capital Budget Program schedule and less any grant funds that may be received.

**Amber Wilson moved Article 5 as written. Seconded by Julie Hance. Article 5 voted in the affirmative.**

**ARTICLE 6:**

To see if the Town of Chester will vote to approve the purchase of a dump truck for the Highway Department in an amount not to exceed \$140,000, less any trade in. Said dump truck to be financed for a term of 5 years beginning in 2021, as illustrated in the Capital Plan. **Julie Hance moved Article 6 as written. Seconded by Nora Ellen Spaulding. Article 6 voted in the affirmative.**

- ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town of Chester will vote to approve the purchase of a police cruiser for the Police Department in an amount not to exceed \$52,000, less any trade in. Said cruiser to be financed for a term of 4 years beginning in 2021, as illustrated in the Capital Plan. **David Leibtag moved Article 7 as written. Seconded by Nora Ellen Spaulding. Article 7 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town of Chester will vote to approve the borrowing of \$100,000 for the purpose of paving Sylvan Road, Peck Road and Elm Street. Said paving to be financed for a term of 4 years beginning in 2021, as illustrated in the Capital Plan. **Julie Hance moved Article 8 as written. Seconded by Kristine Winnicki. Article 8 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 9:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$4,000 (four thousand dollars) to Meals on Wheels of Greater Springfield, Inc. for continued support and services to the citizen of the Town of Chester in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2691. **Bill Lindsay moved Article 9 as written. Seconded by Nora Ellen Spaulding. Article 9 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 10:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of \$2500 (two thousand five hundred dollars) to support the Chester Fireworks for Independence Day, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2691. **David Liebttag moved Article 10 as written. Seconded by Kathleen Guirtino. Article 10 voted in the affirmative.**
- 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, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691. **Tony Weinberger moved Article 11 as written. Seconded by Gladys Collins. Tony Weinberger advised that the Visiting Nurses report could be found on page 116 of the Town Report. Article 11 voted in the affirmative.**
- 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, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691. **Kathy Pellet moved Article 12 as written. Seconded by Peter Hudkins. A Representative from HCRS explained what HCRS does and that 110 Chester residents were served by HCRS last year. Article 12 voted in the affirmative.**
- 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, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691. **Kathy Pellet moved Article 13 as written. Seconded by Peter Hudkins. Article 13 voted in the affirmative.**

- 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, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691. **Robert Neid moved Article 14 as written. Seconded by David Liebtag. Article 14 voted in the affirmative.**
- 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, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691. **David Lord moved Article 15 as written. Seconded by Townshend Gilbert. Jim Collins, representing Senior Solutions, thanked the people of Chester for their continued support. Article 15 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 16:** 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, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691. **Cathy Hasbrouck moved Article 16 as written. Seconded by Kathy Pellet. Article 16 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 17:** Shall the Town of Chester appropriate the sum of \$800 (eight hundred dollars) to support Windsor County Mentors, for youth mentoring services provided to children in Windsor County, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691. **Kari Storm moved Article 17 as written. Seconded by Carol Gilbert. Article 17 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 18:** 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, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691. **Cathy Hasbrouck moved Article 18 as written. Seconded by Townshend Gilbert. Article 18 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 19:** 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, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691. **David Liebtag moved Article 19 as written. Seconded by David Armstrong. Article 19 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 20:** 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, in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691. **David Lord moved Article 20 as written. Seconded by Kristine Winnicki. Article 20 voted in the affirmative.**
- ARTICLE 21:** Shall the Town appropriate the sum of ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$1,500) to Neighborhood Connections, Inc. to cover the cost of providing services in Chester in accordance with 24 V.S.A. §2691. (This article is by petition) **David Lord moved Article 21 as written. Seconded by Townshend Gilbert. Article 21 voted in the affirmative.**

**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. **Julie Hance moved Article 22 as written. Seconded by Gladys Collins. Article 22 voted in the affirmative.**

**ARTICLE 23:** To act on the reports of the Town Officers for the year ending December 31, 2019. **Jim Collins moved Article 23 as written. Seconded by Carla Westine. Article 23 voted in the affirmative.**

**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.

**Peter Hudkins thanked Wanda Purdy for her 32 years of service as Lister to the Town of Chester.**

**Chairman Jonynas reminded everyone that Town Manager David Pisha is retiring after 11 years of service to the Town of Chester and thanked David for his many project accomplishments. There will be a luncheon on Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at the Town Hall.**

**Tony Weinberger pointed out on page 22, 2019 Vital Statistics, Statistical information should be for 2019, not 2018 and Sandra Walker's name is spelled wrong on page 2.**

**Julie Hance made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Nora Ellen Spaulding. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.**

A true record.

  
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Deborah J. Aldrich, Town Clerk

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William E. Dakin, Jr., Moderator

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Arunas Jonynas, Selectboard Chairman

# **A REVIEW OF 2019 OPERATIONS AND THE 2020 BUDGET**





## 2019; THE YEAR IN REVIEW



- THE PAST YEAR WAS AN UNUSUAL ONE IN THAT WEATHER PLAYED A LARGE PART IN DETERMINING THE TOWN'S FINANCIAL OUTCOME
- SOME DEPARTMENTS OPERATED AS PLANNED
- PUBLIC WORKS, WHICH IS MOST SUSCEPTIBLE TO WEATHER ISSUES, WAS CHALLENGED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR
- IN THE NEXT FEW SLIDES WE WILL TAKE A LOOK AT EACH DEPARTMENT

## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

- THIS AREA COMPRISES THE OFFICES OF THE TOWN CLERK & TREASURER, LISTERS, THE TOWN MANAGER & SELECTBOARD, INSURANCE AND PLANNING & ZONING
- THE BUDGET PROJECTED IT WOULD COST \$643,713 TO OPERATE THESE DEPARTMENTS
- IN FACT, IT COST \$630,953 TO OPERATE THEM; A SAVINGS OF \$12,760 OVER WHAT WAS PREDICTED



## GENERAL GOVERNMENT (CONTINUED)

- LISTERS OFFICE: ONE OF THE NOTABLE THINGS HAPPENING IN THIS DEPARTMENT IS THAT THE TOWN-WIDE REAPPRAISAL IS WINDING DOWN
  - THE NEW PROPERTY VALUES WILL BE SET THIS SPRING AND EACH PROPERTY OWNER WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THE RESULTS
  - PLANNING & ZONING: A SIGNIFICANT RE-WRITE OF THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT BY-LAWS IS WELL UNDERWAY
  - ONCE A FINAL DRAFT IS FINISHED THERE WILL BE PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE MATTER SO PLEASE CONSIDER ATTENDING ONE OF THOSE MEETINGS
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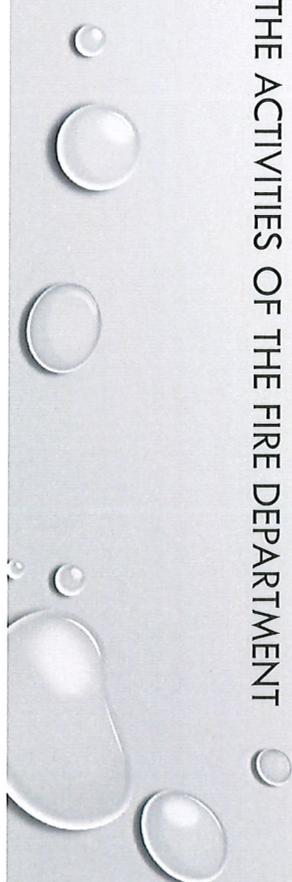
## PUBLIC SAFETY

- THIS AREA IS MADE UP OF POLICE, FIRE, AMBULANCE AND COMMUNICATIONS
- THE BUDGET FOR THESE DEPARTMENTS PREDICTED THAT IT WOULD COST \$742, 686 TO OPERATE THEM FOR THE PAST YEAR
- IN FACT, IT COST \$752,740, OR A DIFFERENCE OF \$10,054



## PUBLIC SAFETY (CONTINUED)



- THE POLICE HAVE INVESTIGATED A VARIETY OF SERIOUS CRIMES DURING THE COURSE OF THE YEAR
  - IN ONE INSTANCE THIS LED TO INVESTIGATIONS IN STATES AS FAR AWAY MICHIGAN, FLORIDA AND ILLINOIS
  - THERE HAVE BEEN SOME PERSONNEL CHANGES BUT THE DEPARTMENT IS NOW FULLY STAFFED
  - IF YOU HAVE NOT MET DUTCH, THE DEPARTMENT'S NEW POLICE DOG, PLEASE STOP IN
  - TAKE A MINUTE AND REVIEW THE INFORMATION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT
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## PUBLIC SAFETY (CONTINUED)



- THEY HAD 180 CALLS FOR SERVICE IN 2019 AND THE DEPARTMENT
  - THEY ARE WELL RESPECTED FOR THEIR ABILITIES
  - THE AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT HAD 411 CALLS FOR SERVICE DURING THE YEAR
  - WITH SUCH AN ACTIVE CALL VOLUME, THE NEEDS FOR VOLUNTEERS REMAINS HIGH; IF YOU, OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW, MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE DEPARTMENT PLEASE LET THEM KNOW
- 



## PARKS & RECREATION



- THIS AREA IS MADE UP OF THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT, THE CEMETERY DEPARTMENT, LIBRARY, TOWN HALL AND MONIES USED FOR REVITALIZATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
- IT WAS EXPECTED THE NET COST TO THE TOWN FOR OPERATING THESE DEPARTMENTS WOULD BE \$378,070
- THE ACTUAL COST WAS \$362,171, OR A SAVINGS FROM BUDGET OF \$15,899



## PARKS & RECREATION (CONTINUED)



- IN THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT, THE DISC GOLF COURSE WAS EXPANDED TO 18 HOLES IN THE PAST YEAR
- THE CEMETERY DEPARTMENT CONTINUES ITS FINE CARE OF THE SEVEN CEMETERIES OWNED BY THE TOWN
- THEY ALSO CONTINUE TO MANAGE THE TREE INVENTORY IN EACH LOCATION SO THAT HISTORIC LANDMARKS ARE PRESERVED
- THE LIBRARY HAD ANOTHER ACTIVE YEAR; PLEASE READ THEIR REPORT FOR THE FULL STORY



## PUBLIC WORKS



- 2019 WAS A DIFFICULT YEAR FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
  - THE HIGHLY VARIABLE WEATHER CAUSED HAVOC REGARDING ROAD MAINTENANCE
  - THE STAFF COULD GO FROM SANDING ONE HOUR, TO SNOW PLOWING THE NEXT
  - ALL THIS ERRATIC WEATHER CAUSED THE STOCKPILES OF SAND AND GRAVEL TO BE DEPLETED AT A RATE NOT EXPERIENCED IN RECENT YEARS
  - REPLENISHING THESE VITAL SUPPLIES WAS COSTLY
  - AS A RESULT THE DEPARTMENT RAN A DEFICIT OF \$139,000 IN CONTRAST TO THE USUAL SURPLUS THEY HAVE ENDED WITH IN PREVIOUS YEARS
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## CAPITAL PLAN

- THIS YEAR IN THE CAPITAL PLAN THE PURCHASE OF A DUMP TRUCK, POLICE CRUISER, BACKHOE AND THE REPAIR OF PALMER BRIDGE ARE BEING PAID WITH LOANS OVER A 4-5 YEAR TIME SPAN
- THIS IS BEING DONE TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF MONEY NEEDED TO BE TRANSFERRED INTO THE PLAN IN 2020 TO HELP SMOOTH OUT THE CASH FLOW
- MONEY TO PAY FOR THE RENOVATION TO THE SECOND FLOOR OF TOWN HALL IS INCLUDED IN THIS YEAR'S PLAN

# BOND PLAN

- THE ONLY NEW BOND IN THE BOND PLAN IS FOR THE NEW EMS BUILDING AND THE RENOVATION OF TOWN GARAGE
- EVEN SO, THERE IS ONLY A \$50,000 DOLLAR EXPENDITURE FOR INTEREST IN 2020 FOR THIS FACILITY
- INTEREST ONLY WILL BE PAID UNTIL 2024 ON THIS BOND; THIS IS BEING DONE SO THAT WHEN FULL PAYMENTS START OTHER BONDS WILL HAVE BEEN PAID OFF IN PRIOR YEAR
- THIS WILL ALLOW FOR A SMOOTHER CASH TRANSFER GOING INTO THE BOND PLAN AND HENCE NOT AS GREAT A DISRUPTION TO THE TAX RATE AS OTHERWISE MIGHT BE THE CASE



# PROJECTS



- THE TOWN VOTED TO PROCEED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW EMS FACILITY
  - PLANNING FOR IT IS WELL UNDERWAY AND CONSTRUCTION SHOULD BEGIN IN THE SPRING OF THIS YEAR
  - IT IS NOT EXPECTED THAT THE BUILDING WILL BE FINISHED UNTIL THE MIDDLE OF 2021
  - WHEN IT IS COMPLETED, POLICE, FIRE AND AMBULANCE WILL MOVE IN
  - AT THAT TIME, THE TOWN GARAGE WILL BE REFURBISHED FOR THE SOLE USE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
  - BOTH FACILITIES SHOULD HAVE A 50 YEAR LIFE SPAN
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## PROJECTS (CONTINUED)

- CHESTER IS ALSO PURSUING ACT 250 PERMISSION TO OPEN A GRAVEL EXTRACTION OPERATION
- A HEARING WAS HELD THIS PAST WEEK ON THE MATTER
- IF APPROVED, THE TOWN WILL HAVE AN IN-TOWN RESOURCE THAT WILL SAVE THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS OVER THE LIFE OF THE PROJECT
- THE MATERIAL WILL BE SOLELY FOR THE BENEFIT OF CHESTER; NO OUTSIDE SALES WILL TAKE PLACE

## 2020 BUDGET

- THE BUDGET FOR EACH MAJOR AREA IS A FOLLOWS:
- GENERAL GOVERNMENT; NET COST IS PREDICTED TO BE DOWN BY \$42,368
- PUBLIC SAFETY; NET COST IS EXPECTED TO BE UP BY \$22,072
- RECREATION; THE NET COST IS UP BY \$13,066
- GRANTS: NET COST IS DOWN BY \$12,500
- PUBLIC WORKS; NET COST IS UP BY \$360,323 BECAUSE OF A DEFICIT BEING CARRIED FORWARD AND THE NEED TO PURCHASE MORE SAND AND GRAVEL
- THE TRANSFER AMOUNT HAS BEEN DECREASED BY \$154,545

## 2020 BUDGET (CONTINUED)

- THE OVERALL EFFECT OF THESE CHANGES MEANS THAT THE DIFFERENCE IN THE 2020 BUDGET COMPARED TO 2019 IS \$263,719
- THIS CHANGE WAS CAUSED BY THE WEATHER-RELATED EFFECTS ON THE OPERATION OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT WHICH MOVED ITS FINANCES INTO A DEFICIT



OFFICIAL RETURN OF VOTES  
ELECTIONS DIVISION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

<b>Election</b>	2020 TOWN MEETING AUSTRALIAN BALLOT (03/03/2020)	<b>Town</b>	CHESTER
		<b>District</b>	

1.	Total Registered Voters on checklist for this polling place:	2,321
2.	Total Number of Voters checked off on the entrance checklist: (this includes absentee ballots)	909
3.	Total number of absentee ballots returned: (Include this count in Line 2)	77

Ballot bag seal #: 0201455

I hereby certify, under the pains and penalties of perjury, that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. By checking this box, no signature is needed and you agree to the terms and conditions under Vermont law.

  
DEBORAH J. ALDRICH  
TOWN CLERK/PRESIDING OFFICER

  
AMIE O'BRIEN  
ASST. TOWN CLERK/ELECTION  
OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL RETURN OF VOTES ENTRY			
Election	2020 TOWN MEETING AUSTRALIAN BALLOT	Town	CHESTER
		District	

Name on Ballot	Party	Town of Residence	Vote Cast
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TOWN MODERATOR			Vote for not more than ONE
WILLIAM E. DAKIN, JR		CHESTER	823
<b>TOTAL WRITE IN COUNTS</b>			6
BION WYMAN ( <i>Write-in</i> )			2
MIKE LECLAIR ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
ROBO HOLLERAN ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
RONALD PATCH ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
SARAH VAIL ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
OTHER WRITE IN COUNTS			0
<b>OVERVOTES</b>			0
<b>BLANK VOTES</b>			80
<b>TOTAL VOTES COUNTED</b>			909

TOWN CLERK			Vote for not more than ONE
DEBORAH ALDRICH		CHESTER	860
<b>TOTAL WRITE IN COUNTS</b>			0
OTHER WRITE IN COUNTS			0
<b>OVERVOTES</b>			0
<b>BLANK VOTES</b>			49
<b>TOTAL VOTES COUNTED</b>			909

TOWN TREASURER			Vote for not more than ONE
DEBORAH ALDRICH		CHESTER	853
<b>TOTAL WRITE IN COUNTS</b>			1
SHIRLEY BARRETT ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
OTHER WRITE IN COUNTS			0
<b>OVERVOTES</b>			0
<b>BLANK VOTES</b>			55
<b>TOTAL VOTES COUNTED</b>			909

OFFICIAL RETURN OF VOTES ENTRY			
<b>Election</b>	2020 TOWN MEETING AUSTRALIAN BALLOT	<b>Town</b>	CHESTER
		<b>District</b>	

Name on Ballot	Party	Town of Residence	Vote Cast
<b>SELECTMEN</b>			Vote for not more than TWO
SCOTT BLAIR		CHESTER	392
LEIGH J. DAKIN		CHESTER	608
JEFFERY HOLDEN		CHESTER	478
<b>TOTAL WRITE IN COUNTS</b>			6
DEREK SUURSOO ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
FRED DEROSIA ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
GRAHAM KENNEDY ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
JOHN MCLURE ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
KEN BARRETT ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
RICHARD ALEXANDER ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
OTHER WRITE IN COUNTS			0
<b>OVERVOTES</b>			10
<b>BLANK VOTES</b>			324
<b>TOTAL VOTES COUNTED</b>			1,818

<b>SELECTMEN</b>			Vote for not more than ONE
ARNE JONYNAS		CHESTER	805
<b>TOTAL WRITE IN COUNTS</b>			8
BILL LINDSAY ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
DAVID ARMSTRONG ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
DEREK SUURSOO ( <i>Write-in</i> )			2
MIKE STUDIN ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
RICHARD ALEXANDER JR ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
SCOTT BLAIR ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
OTHER WRITE IN COUNTS			1
<b>OVERVOTES</b>			0
<b>BLANK VOTES</b>			96
<b>TOTAL VOTES COUNTED</b>			909

OFFICIAL RETURN OF VOTES ENTRY			
Election	2020 TOWN MEETING AUSTRALIAN BALLOT	Town	CHESTER
		District	

Name on Ballot	Party	Town of Residence	Vote Cast
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TOWN GRAND JUROR			Vote for not more than ONE
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<b>TOTAL WRITE IN COUNTS</b>			14
BARBARA LEMIRE ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
BILL DAKIN ( <i>Write-in</i> )			3
CATHERINE MATRACIA ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
GARY KING ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
HENRY DENT ( <i>Write-in</i> )			2
JEFFERY HOLDEN ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
SANDRA BARTLEY ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
SANDY WALKER ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
SCOTT BLAIR ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
WALLY BROWN ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
WILLIAM HUNTER ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
OTHER WRITE IN COUNTS			0
<b>OVERVOTES</b>			0
<b>BLANK VOTES</b>			895
<b>TOTAL VOTES COUNTED</b>			909

AGENT TO DEFEND SUITS			Vote for not more than ONE
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<b>TOTAL WRITE IN COUNTS</b>			7
DAVID WALKER ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
IRENE RAMEN ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
RICHARD CLOUD ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
SANDY WALKER ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
WILLIAM DAKIN ( <i>Write-in</i> )			3
OTHER WRITE IN COUNTS			0
<b>OVERVOTES</b>			0
<b>BLANK VOTES</b>			902
<b>TOTAL VOTES COUNTED</b>			909

OFFICIAL RETURN OF VOTES ENTRY			
<b>Election</b>	2020 TOWN MEETING AUSTRALIAN BALLOT	<b>Town</b>	CHESTER
		<b>District</b>	

Name on Ballot	Party	Town of Residence	Vote Cast
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TRUSTEE OF PUBLIC FUNDS			Vote for not more than ONE
COLLEEN GARVEY		CHESTER	709
<b>TOTAL WRITE IN COUNTS</b>			1
CASEY MILLER ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
OTHER WRITE IN COUNTS			0
<b>OVERVOTES</b>			0
<b>BLANK VOTES</b>			199
<b>TOTAL VOTES COUNTED</b>			909

TRUSTEES WHITING LIBRARY			Vote for not more than TWO
COLLEEN GARVEY		CHESTER	695
DONNA M. MATTHEWS		CHESTER	650
<b>TOTAL WRITE IN COUNTS</b>			1
WILL WILCOX ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
OTHER WRITE IN COUNTS			0
<b>OVERVOTES</b>			0
<b>BLANK VOTES</b>			472
<b>TOTAL VOTES COUNTED</b>			1,818

GREEN MOUNTAIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT DIRECTOR			Vote for not more than TWO
RICK ALEXANDER		CHESTER	447
PATTY DAVENPORT		CHESTER	437
JEANNIE WADE		CHESTER	451
<b>TOTAL WRITE IN COUNTS</b>			1
DAVID VANALSTYNE ( <i>Write-in</i> )			1
OTHER WRITE IN COUNTS			0
<b>OVERVOTES</b>			4
<b>BLANK VOTES</b>			478
<b>TOTAL VOTES COUNTED</b>			1,818

OFFICIAL RETURN OF VOTES ENTRY			
<b>Election</b>	2020 TOWN MEETING AUSTRALIAN BALLOT	<b>Town</b>	CHESTER
		<b>District</b>	

Name on Ballot	Party	Town of Residence	Vote Cast
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Vote for not more than ONE			
ARTICLE 2: SHALL GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWN OF CHESTER IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED FIFTY SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$157,500), SUBJECT TO REDUCTION FROM THE RECEIPT OF AVAILABLE STATE AND FEDERAL GRANTS-IN-AID, AS WELL AS ANY TRADE IN VALUE, BE ISSUED FOR THE PURPOSE OF PURCHASING A BACKHOE FOR THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT? SAID BACKHOE TO BE FINANCED FOR A TERM OF 10 YEARS. (AUSTRALIAN BALLOT)			
YES			498
NO			90
<b>OVERVOTES</b>			0
<b>BLANK VOTES</b>			321
<b>TOTAL VOTES COUNTED</b>			909

River Valley Technical Center School District  
Member District: School  
(Chester)

March 3, 2020

Australian Ballot Count

Number of voters who voted: 906

ARTICLE 1: Shall the voters of the River Valley Technical Center School District approve the sum of two million, nine hundred eighty-four thousand, five hundred eighty-five dollars (\$2,984,585) to defray current expenses for the ensuing fiscal year and to pay outstanding orders and obligations?

YES: 677

NO: 206

SPOILED: 3

BLANK: 20

Attest: Deborah Aldrich, Chester Town Clerk

Deborah Aldrich  
Signature of Clerk

Date 3/3/2020

c: Chester Town School Board  
Green Mt. Unified School District Board  
River Valley Technical Center School Board





**OFFICIAL RETURN OF VOTES  
ELECTIONS DIVISION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

<b>Election</b>	<b>PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY (03/03/2020)</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>CHESTER</b>
		<b>District</b>	

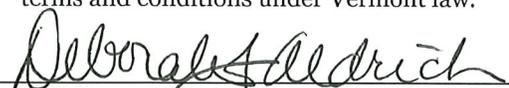
1.	Total Registered Voters on checklist for this polling place:	2,321
2.	Total Number of Voters checked off on the entrance checklist: (this includes absentee ballots)	922
3.	Total number of absentee ballots returned: (Include this count in Line 2)	92
4.	Total number of ballots voted by the Accessible Voting System:	0
5.	Total number of DEFECTIVE ballots (not counted but name checked off checklist): (Enter the Total Defective ballots from the Defective Ballot Envelope. -- DO NOT include REPLACED ballots.)	0
6.	<b>TOTAL BALLOTS COUNTED: (Number of voters checked off checklist minus defective ballots.)</b>	922
	Total number of ballots counted for DEMOCRATIC	693
	Total number of ballots counted for REPUBLICAN	229
7.	Total number of PROVISIONAL ballots (to be sent to Secretary of State):	0

If line 6 (Total Votes Counted.) and the sum of the ballots counted for each party DO NOT agree, you must explain the discrepancies below and continue - Line 6 will be adjusted accordingly:

Ballot bag seal #:

0093449

I hereby certify, under the pains and penalties of perjury, that the information provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief. By checking this box, no signature is needed and you agree to the terms and conditions under Vermont law.

  
DEBORAH J. ALDRICH  
TOWN CLERK/PRESIDING OFFICER

  
AMIE O'BRIEN  
ASST. TOWN CLERK/ELECTION  
OFFICIAL

**OFFICIAL RETURN OF VOTES ENTRY**

<b>Election</b>	<b>PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>CHESTER</b>
		<b>District</b>	

<b>Name on Ballot</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Town of Residence</b>	<b>Vote Cast</b>
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**US PRESIDENT** Vote for not more than ONE

JOSEPH R. BIDEN	DEMOCRATIC	DELAWARE	180
MICHAEL R. BLOOMBERG	DEMOCRATIC	NEW YORK	52
PETE BUTTIGIEG	DEMOCRATIC	INDIANA	15
JULIAN CASTRO	DEMOCRATIC	TEXAS	0
TULSI GABBARD	DEMOCRATIC	HAWAII	3
AMY KLOBUCHAR	DEMOCRATIC	MINNESOTA	5
DEVAL PATRICK	DEMOCRATIC	MASSACHUSETTS	0
BERNIE SANDERS	DEMOCRATIC	VERMONT	361
MARK STEWART	DEMOCRATIC	CONNECTICUT	1
TOM STEYER	DEMOCRATIC	CALIFORNIA	3
ELIZABETH WARREN	DEMOCRATIC	MASSACHUSETTS	70
MARIANNE WILLIAMSON	DEMOCRATIC	IOWA	0
ANDREW YANG	DEMOCRATIC	NEW YORK	2
<b>TOTAL WRITE IN COUNTS</b>	DEMOCRATIC		0
OTHER WRITE IN COUNTS			0
<b>OVERVOTES</b>			0
<b>BLANK VOTES</b>			1
<b>TOTAL VOTES COUNTED</b>			693

**OFFICIAL RETURN OF VOTES ENTRY**

<b>Election</b>	<b>PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>CHESTER</b>
		<b>District</b>	

<b>Name on Ballot</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Town of Residence</b>	<b>Vote Cast</b>
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<b>US PRESIDENT</b>			<i>Vote for not more than ONE</i>
ROQUE "ROCKY" DE LA FUENTE	REPUBLICAN	CALIFORNIA	1
DONALD J. TRUMP	REPUBLICAN	NEW YORK	201
BILL WELD	REPUBLICAN	MASSACHUSETTS	19
<b>TOTAL WRITE IN COUNTS</b>	REPUBLICAN		4
ELIZABETH WARREN ( <i>Write-in</i> )	REPUBLICAN		1
PETE BUTTIGEIG ( <i>Write-in</i> )	REPUBLICAN		1
STEVE CUTTILA ( <i>Write-in</i> )	REPUBLICAN		1
TOM KNOCKENHAUER ( <i>Write-in</i> )	REPUBLICAN		1
OTHER WRITE IN COUNTS			0
<b>OVERVOTES</b>			0
<b>BLANK VOTES</b>			4
<b>TOTAL VOTES COUNTED</b>			229