

TOWN OF CHESTER, VERMONT

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NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF SHORT-TERM RENTAL ORDINANCE

On June 19, 2024, the Selectboard of the Town of Chester, Vermont, adopted an “Ordinance to Regulate the Operation of Short-Term Rentals” pursuant to the authority granted in 24 V.S.A. § 2291(29) and 24 V.S.A. § 1971 *et seq.* which supersedes and replaces an Ordinance of the same title adopted on December 7, 2022. This notice is published pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 1972 to inform the public of the adoption of this ordinance and of the citizens’ right to petition for a vote to disapprove the adoption of this ordinance.

CONCISE SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE

The purpose of the Short-Term Rental Ordinance is to require the annual registration of short-term rentals within the Town of Chester. The Ordinance adopted on June 19, 2024, will raise the annual fee for a non-hosted short-term rental from \$300 to \$600, impose a one (1) year waiting period after the sale or transfer of a property before it can be registered as a short-term rental, set a town-wide registration cap of sixty-five (65) short-term rental registrations per year, and allow a person or entity to register only up to two (2) short-term rental dwelling units in the town in any calendar year.

The full text of the ordinance may be examined at the Chester Town office at 556 Elm Street in Chester, Vermont, and may be examined during regular office hours.

CITIZENS’ RIGHT TO PETITION FOR VOTE

Title 24 V.S.A. § 1973 grants citizens the right to petition for a vote at a special or annual Town Meeting to disapprove the adoption of the ordinance by the Selectboard. To exercise this right, citizens must present to the Selectboard or the Town Clerk a petition for a vote on the question of disapproving the adoption of the ordinance signed by not less than five percent (5%) of the Town’s qualified voters. The petition must be presented within forty-four (44) days following the date of the adoption of the ordinance. Unless a petition requesting a vote is filed pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 1973, the adopted “Ordinance to Regulate the Operation of Short-Term Rentals” shall become effective sixty (60) days from the date of said adoption.

PERSON TO CONTACT

Additional information pertaining to this ordinance may be obtained by contacting Julie Hance, Town Manager at 556 Elm Street, P.O. Box 370, Chester, VT 05143 or by calling (802) 875-2173 during regular office hours.