

THE COMMONWEALTH of MASSACHUSETTS
Berkshire, SS.
To either of the Constables of the TOWN of CHESHIRE in
the County of BERKSHIRE
GREETING.

In The Name of THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at said Cheshire.

Place: Cheshire Elementary School Auditorium
191 Church St., Cheshire 01225

Date: Monday, June 12, 2017

Time: 7:00pm

Voter check-in to begin at 6:30pm.

CHESHIRE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Article 1. To hear the Annual Report of the Selectmen and the other officers and to act thereon.

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from available funds in the Treasury such sum or sums of money as may be necessary to defray the ordinary expenses of the Town for the ensuing year, and to pay interest on loans maturing in this year, *or take any other action in relation thereto.*

[NOTE: *The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from certified free cash the sum of \$170,000 (one hundred seventy thousand dollars) to reduce the tax rate, *or take any other action in relation thereto.*

[NOTE: *The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to borrow and appropriate any additional sum or sums of money which will be reimbursed by the Commonwealth under any applicable State Aid Highway Programs for construction or improvements to Town roads and bridges as requested by the Selectmen, *or take any other action in relation thereto.*

[NOTE: *The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from certified free cash the sum of \$14,000 (fourteen thousand dollars) for the purpose of purchasing and installing an emergency power generator to be located at the Cheshire Fire Department, *or take any other action in relation thereto.*

[NOTE: *The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from certified free cash the sum of \$40,000 (forty thousand dollars) for the purpose of purchasing a new model year 4-wheel drive police cruiser and to donate the current 2008 Ford Crown Victoria cruiser to the charitable organization "Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Massachusetts, *or take any other action in relation thereto.*

[NOTE: *The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from certified free cash the sum of \$11,000 (eleven thousand dollars) for the purpose of purchasing and installing a new dump body and sander for the Town Highway Department's 2011 Ford F350 vehicle, *or take any other action in relation thereto.*

[NOTE: *The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from certified free cash the sum of \$60,000 for the purpose of funding the Town's share of the Department of Housing and Community Development Housing Rehabilitation grant, *or take any other action in relation thereto.*

[NOTE: *The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of MGL Chapter 40, Section 6C, which allows the Town to plow snow and ice on private roads within its limits and open to the public use, *or take any other action in relation thereto.*

[NOTE: *The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

[NOTE: *The following article appears on the warrant via certified citizen petition.]*

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to act on an Emergency Amendment Pursuant to Section VII(B) of the Agreement between the towns of Adams and Cheshire, Massachusetts Allowing the Town of Cheshire to Pay Additional costs to keep Cheshire Elementary School open, as follows: Amendment pursuant to Section VII(B) of the Agreement between the Towns of Adams and Cheshire, Massachusetts, with respect to the formation of a regional school district, to allow the Town of Cheshire to fund continued operation of the Cheshire School without contribution by the Town of Adams, notwithstanding any provision in the agreement regarding apportionment and payment of costs incurred by the district, which provisions shall be considered amended consistent with this petition. This petition is for an emergency amendment to our district agreement. It will allow the Town of Cheshire to pay any additional costs to keep Cheshire School open for grades pre-K - 5th grade without any additional costs to the Town of Adams.

[NOTE: *The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

[NOTE: *The following article appears on the warrant via certified citizen petition.]*

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from certified free cash the sum of \$150,000 to fund continued operation of the Cheshire Elementary School grades pre-K through 5 for FY 17-18 only.

[NOTE: *The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

[NOTE: *The following article appears on the warrant via certified citizen petition.]*

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$150,000 from the Stabilization Fund to fund continued operation of the Cheshire Elementary School grades pre-K through 5 for FY 17-18 only.

[NOTE: *The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]*

[NOTE: *The following article appears on the warrant via certified citizen petition. "Articles 1 & 2" refer to Articles 11 and 12 above.]*

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$300,000 to keep Cheshire Elementary School open from grades pre-K through 5 for FY 17-18

only. If articles 1 & 2 on this petition are approved, this article will not be necessary.

[NOTE: *The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.*]

[NOTE: *The following article appears on the warrant via certified citizen petition.*]

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to allow outside fundraising to offset and reduce the cost of continued operation of the Cheshire Elementary School grades pre-K through 5.

[NOTE: *The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.*]

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from certified free cash the sum of \$100,000 (one-hundred thousand dollars) for the purpose of funding the fiscal year 2018 annual maintenance and safekeeping costs of the Cheshire Elementary School, *or take any other action in relation thereto.*

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation to increase the size of the Board of Selectmen from three to five members, as set forth below; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court which are within the scope of the general objectives of this petition, *or to take any other action relative thereto.*

[NOTE: *The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.*]

An Act Relative to the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Cheshire.

Section 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, there shall hereby be established in the Town of Cheshire a 5-member Board of Selectmen. Each Selectman shall serve for a 3-year term, with no more than 2 Selectman's terms to run concurrently.

Section 2. At the first annual town election following at least 64 days after the effective date of this act, one additional Selectman shall be elected to a 2-year term. The terms of those members currently serving as Selectmen at the time of the adoption of this act shall be unchanged by adoption of this act.

Section 3. This act shall be submitted to the voters of the Town of Cheshire at a regular or special town election to be held in said town in the form of the following question which shall be placed on the official ballot: "Shall an act passed by the General Court in the year 2017, entitled "An Act Relative to the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Cheshire," be accepted? Below the question shall appear a summary of the act prepared by Town Counsel and approved by the Board of Selectmen. In the event that a majority of those voting on the question vote in the affirmative, sections 1 and 2 of this act shall take effect in the Town of Cheshire, but not otherwise.

Section 4. This act shall take effect upon passage.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$11,514 (eleven thousand five hundred fourteen dollars) from the Cemetery Sale of Lots Account available funds for the purpose of purchasing a replacement lawn mower and burial lowering device equipment, *or take any other action in relation thereto.*
[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to rescind Article 34 of the Town Bylaws, which sets fee schedules for the Town Clerk, *or take any other action in relation thereto.*

[Note: The schedule of fees charged by the Town Clerk were approved in 1995 and have become obsolete.]

[NOTE: The Cheshire Advisory Board approves this article.]

Article 19: To do and transact any other business that may properly come before this meeting, *or take any other action in relation thereto.*

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at the time and place of meeting as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this 30th day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.

_____ *Robert Ciskowski*

_____ *Carol Francesconi*

_____ *Edmund St. John IV*

A true copy: Attest:

_____ *Ralph Biagini, Constable*

Berkshire, ss.

PURSUANT TO THE WITHIN WARRANT, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Cheshire by posting up attested copies of the same at: Cheshire Town Hall, Town Hall Annex, Cheshire Post Office, H.D. Reynolds General Merchandise and the Cheshire Community/Senior Center.

_____ days before the date of the meeting, as within directed.

_____ *Constable of Cheshire*