

**TOWN OF CHEBEAGUE ISLAND, MAINE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

TO: Christine Auffant a resident of the Town of Chebeague Island, in the County of Cumberland and State of Maine,

GREETING:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Chebeague Island in the County of Cumberland, State of Maine, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at Chebeague Island Hall Community Center, 247 South Road, Chebeague Island, Maine on **Saturday, the 8th day of June, 2024 at 9 o'clock in the morning, then and there to act upon Articles 1 and 3 through 65;**

And, to notify and warn said inhabitants to meet at the Chebeague Island Hall Community Center in said town on Tuesday, the 11th of June 2024 at 8 o'clock in the morning, then and there to act on Article 2 as set out below, with the polling hours from 8:00 o'clock in the morning until 8 o'clock in the evening.

OPEN TOWN MEETING – JUNE 8, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.

Article 1: To choose a moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

ELECTION VOTING ARTICLE: 2

VOTING – JUNE 11, 2024 - 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Article 2: To elect by secret ballot:

- A. Two (2) Select Board members for a three (3)-year term.
- B. One (1) Select Board member for a two (2)- year term.
- C. Two (2) School Board members for a three (3)-year term.

Article 3: To see if the Town will approve opening the floor of this Town Meeting to all non-registered persons for the purpose of discussion only on each of the following articles of this Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Warrant.

Explanation: This article must be passed by a 2/3 majority of those present.

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE ARTICLES

Article 4: Shall an ordinance entitled “2024 Amendments to Planning Board Ordinance of the Town of Chebeague Island, Maine” be enacted? (A copy of the proposed amendments is available for review and inspection at the Town Office; it will also be available at the Town Meeting).

Article 5: Shall an ordinance entitled “2024 Amendments to Floodplain Management Ordinances of the Town of Chebeague Island, Maine” be enacted? (A copy of the proposed amendments is available for review and inspection at the Town Office; it will also be available at the Town Meeting).

Article 6: Shall an Ordinance entitled “2024 Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Chebeague Island, Maine” be enacted? (A copy of the proposed amendments is available for review and inspection at the Town Office; it will also be available at the Town Meeting).

Article 7: Shall the Town’s Comprehensive Plan be amended by adding “Chebeague Island Comprehensive Plan Update 2024”? (A copy of the proposed amendments is available for review and inspection at the Town Office; it will also be available at the Town Meeting).

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Termination of Public Access Easement and Road Maintenance Agreement concerning Indian Point Road. (A copy of the proposed change is available for review and inspection at the Town Office; it will also be available at the Town Meeting)

EDUCATION BUDGET ARTICLES

AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES IN EDUCATION COST CENTER CATEGORIES

Article 9: Shall the Town authorize the School Committee to expend **\$526,243** for Regular Instruction?

*Explanation: Included in this cost center is the salary and benefits for the 2 full-time teachers, the specialists and half of the educational technician. These funds pay the tuition for all the middle and high school students to Yarmouth which is over \$11,000 for each student. Enrollment projections for FY25 are CIS 12, ML 3, HS 15. This cost center is **\$45,836 less than last year, a decrease of 8.01%**.*

Article 10: Shall the Town authorize the School Committee to expend **\$224,890** for Special Education?

Explanation: Included in this cost center is the salary and benefits of a full-time teacher at CIS and half of the educational technician. These funds pay for the cost of special education services for CI middle and high school students at Yarmouth Schools. The

*increase to this cost center is adding back the part time educational technician and moving the teaching position to full time. This cost center is **\$62,809 more than it was last year, an increase of 38.75%**.*

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **\$0** for Career and Technical Education.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **\$0** for Other Instruction.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **\$35,451** for Student and Staff Support.

*Explanation: Included in this cost center is professional development for the teachers and educational staff. The school pays to have library classes at the CI Library. The SC has voted to hire a social worker for the school for 1 day a week, it is listed under guidance. This cost center is **\$7,251 more than last year, an increase of 25.71%**.*

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **\$129,083** for System Administration.

*Explanation: This cost center includes the full salary and benefits for the Superintendent and half of the administrative assistant. It includes the costs of the administrative side of running the school (district); insurance, phone, postage, printing, and advertising for open positions. This cost center is **\$47,147 more than last year, an increase of 57.54%**.*

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **\$30,497** for School Administration.

*Explanation: The SC voted to have a superintendent and the daily running of the school will be the responsibility of the teacher leader. The other half of the salary and benefits of the administrative assistant are included here. The other expenses in this cost center are for the copier, conferences, and supplies for running the school office. This cost center is **\$33,697 less than last year; a decrease of 52.49%**.*

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **\$122,319** for Transportation and Buses.

*Explanation: Included in this cost center is the salary and benefits for the bus driver. The big-ticket item is the contract with CTC for student and staff transportation. Other costs are for bargaining, insurance, repairs and fuel for the bus and van. This cost center is **\$699 less than last year, a decrease of 0.57%**.*

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **\$64,060** for Facilities Maintenance.

*Explanation: Included in this cost center is the salary and benefits for the custodian. This position is split with the cook position to make a full-time position. Included are the expenses to maintain and clean the building inside and out including mowing the property, electricity, heating fuel, insurance, and water testing. There is also money for repairs to the building and its systems. The school will no longer pay the Recreation Department \$8,000 for the use of the gym for PE classes and indoor recess. This cost center is **\$6,275 less than last year; a decrease of 8.92%**.*

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **\$107,923** for Debt Service and Other Commitments.

*Explanation: CIS still owes MSAD #51- Cumberland for the expense that was incurred before CI decided to become its own town. This amount owed is established by the bond that was secured at that time. The fluctuation in cost is based on the State of Maine's valuation of the towns; North Yarmouth, Cumberland, and Chebeague Island. This cost center is **\$26,441 less than last year; a decrease of 19.68%**.*

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **\$45,704** for All Other Expenditures.

*Explanation: This cost center is the food service and contingency. In this cost center is the other half of the salary and benefits of the cook/custodian. Other expenses paid from these lines are contracted services for the kitchen; drain cleaning, refrigerator and freezer maintenance, kitchen license, and fire suppression system inspections (the hood). This cost center is **\$1,033 less than last year; a decrease of 2.21%**.*

RAISE FUNDS FOR THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$679,208.89** for the total cost of funding public education from Pre-Kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and shall the Town raise **\$611,601.35** as the Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Pre-Kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688?

Explanation: The Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Pre-Kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that the Town must raise and assess in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.

Article 21: **(Written ballot required.)** Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **\$587,141.11** in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and

Services allocation model by **\$551,437.11** as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Committee?

The School Committee gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model: EPS does not fully support all the necessary costs of a Pre-Kindergarten to grade 12 education programs, such as (1) special education costs; (2) ferry transportation and bus costs; (3) staff benefits, including health insurance, FICA, Medicare, unemployment benefits, and workers compensation.

Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the Town's local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Pre-Kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the Town budget for educational programs.

SUMMARY THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **\$1,286, 170** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 from the Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Pre-Kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools.

EXPENDITURES OF GRANTS AND OTHER RECEIPTS

Article 23: In addition to amounts approved in the preceding articles, shall the Town authorize the School Committee to expend such other sums as may be received from federal pr state or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school and other program purposes, providing that such grants, programs, or other sources do not require the expenditures of other funds not previously appropriated?

Explanation: CIS receives money for special education. It is about \$10,000. The grant is written to be spent on positions. After the money is spent, paperwork is submitted to show the expenditure aligns with the grant. At that point the money is reimbursed. CIS receives money for Rural Education (REAP). This money is used to assure that the CIS students have similar opportunities to mainland students. These experiences and receipts are paid for and reimbursed after evidence the expenditure is submitted. There may be other grants that become available during the year. This article gives the school permission to apply for additional funding as it becomes available and spend it appropriately.

TRANSFERS AMONG COST CENTERS

Article 24: Shall the School Board be authorized to transfer amounts exceeding 5% of the total appropriation for any cost center to another cost center or among other cost centers for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, provided that transfers shall not be permitted to increase the authorized total school budget?

Explanation: Although the School Committee uses all the information available to them in preparing a budget for future spending, there are times when a cost center is overspent. At the end of the fiscal year no cost center can be overspent. If a cost center is overspent this Article is a means to correct the negative balance. The School Committee must vote at their meeting to move money from a cost center to zero out the overspent cost center.

MUNICIPAL BUDGET ARTICLES

Article 25: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Administration and Select Board Accounts (1300).

The Board recommends: \$ **337,046**.

Explanation: 18.23% (\$51,977) increase from FY24 budget. The increase is due to our switching to TRIO Web, replacement of the broken AC unit and added cost to contracted services.

Article 26: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Assessor (1400).

The Board recommends: \$ **14,650**.

Explanation: No change from FY24 budget.

Article 27: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Elections (1650).

The Board recommends: \$ **1,000**.

Explanation: No change from FY24 budget.

Article 28: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Planning (1700).

The Board recommends: \$ **4,075**.

Explanation: 15.60% (550). The increase is due to the annual cost for GIS mapping.

Article 29: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Legal Services (1900).

The Board recommends: **\$ 23,000.**

Explanation: No changes from FY24 budget.

Article 30: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Law Enforcement Services (2100).

The Board recommends: **\$ 53,410.**

Explanation: -5.86% (\$-3,325) decrease from FY24 budget. This decrease is due to costs associated with the Cumberland County Sheriff's Department Contract.

Article 31: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Fire and Rescue Department (2200).

The Board recommends: **\$ 153,045.**

Explanation: 5.01% (\$7,302) increase from FY24 budget. The increase is due to the purchase of a Fire Chief laptop, added costs to travel and equipment maintenance.

Article 32: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Code Enforcement (2400).

The Board recommends: **\$ 57,750.**

Explanation: 43.46% (\$17,495) increase from FY24 budget. The increase is due to the overall improvement in the CEO department. Increased hours and wages of the CEO, iWorQ's software and training.

Article 33: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Harbormaster and Shellfish Warden account (2500).

The Board recommends: **\$31,951.**

Explanation: 2.65% (\$824) increase from FY24 budget. The increase is for the 3% COLA increase.

Article 34: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Animal Control (2600).

The Board recommends: **\$ 4,850.**

Explanation: No change from the FY 24 budget.

Article 35: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Public Services (3100).

The Board recommends: **\$ 195,280.**

Explanation: -3.13% (-6,308) decrease from FY 24 budget. Decrease is due to one-time computer purchase in FY 24 as well as decrease in road materials and contracted services.

Article 36: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Solid Waste (3200).

The Board recommends: **\$ 241,802.**

Explanation: 14.36% (30,359) increase from FY 24 budget. The increase is due to biannual landfill monitoring, increased barging, hauling, training and salary costs.

Article 37: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Cousins Island Dock Reserve Fund (4400).

The Board recommends: **\$24,853.**

Explanation: 4% (\$956) increase from FY24 budget per agreement with the Town of Yarmouth. This reserve fund is for the sole purpose of providing for the maintenance, capital repairs and eventual replacement of the Cousins Island Dock and/or the improvements to Wharf Road as described in the Agreement with Yarmouth.

Article 38: To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for Contributions (4600) and to authorize the Select Board to disburse the full amount.

Select Board recommends raising **\$170,346** and authorizing the Select Board to disburse the full amount according to this table:

Contribution Disbursement	Proposed 24-25 to be Raised	Notes
3150 Chebeague Island Library	\$25,000	Same as last year
3151 Chebeague Community Ctr.	\$37,200	\$1,300 decrease from last year
3164 Visiting Nurse and Hospice	\$1,250	\$250 increase from last year
3164 LifeFlight	\$396	\$396 increase from last year
3166 Island Council	\$7,000	Same as last year
3167 Chebeague Recreation Center	\$59,500	Same as last year
3168 CRC – Kids Place	\$30,000	\$10,000 increase from last year
3169 Island Commons Res. Center	\$10,000	Same as last year
TOTAL	\$170,346	

Explanation: 5.80% (\$9,346) increase from FY43 budget. If approved, the Select Board will disburse the appropriated funds to the appropriate entities.

Article 39: To see whether the Town will authorize the additional donation of municipal employee time and materials for the occasional snow plowing and/or sanding of the parking lots of the Chebeague Recreation Center, Chandler's Wharf and Island Commons during significant winter weather events.

Explanation: These properties are not owned by the Town, so it is unlawful to use public monies to support their operations without the express consent of the Town.

Article 40: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for General Assistance (5810).

The Board recommends: **\$500.**

Explanation: No change from FY4 budget.

Article 41: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Health Services (5910).

The Board recommends: **\$ 2,000.**

Explanation: No change from FY24 budget. This is to pay the duly appointed Health Officer.

Article 42: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Cemetery (6200).

The Board recommends: **\$ 13,900.**

Explanation: No change from FY 24 budget.

Article 43: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Debt Service (6900).

The Board recommends: **\$ 459,205.**

Explanation: 4.70% (\$20,617) increase from FY24 budget. \$196,477 for the Maine Municipal Bond Bank (MMBB) debt from the secession payout to Town of Cumberland; \$114,495 for the MMBB debt from the School Construction Project; \$21,500 for the MMBB debt from the Plow Truck; \$48,596 for the MMBB debt for Dredging and \$78,137 for MMBB debt for Broadband.

Article 44: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Benefits & Insurance (7500).

The Board recommends: **\$ 204,391.**

Explanation: 5.14% (\$10,000) increase from FY24 budget due adding back annual employee bonuses.

Article 45: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Street Lights (8100).

The Board recommends: **\$ 8,400.**

Explanation: No change from FY24 budget.

Article 46: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Select Board to spend for unexpected expenses as they deem necessary from Contingency (8300).

The Board recommends: **\$ 30,000.**

Explanation: 114.29% (16,000) increase from FY 24. The increase is to be better prepared for unexpected costs.

Article 47: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the payment to the Town of Cumberland for 50% of Outer Islands Tax (8800).

The Board recommends: **\$ 56,935 (estimate)**

Explanation: As required in the law allowing Chebeague to secede from the Town of Cumberland, this article appropriates 50% of the property taxes committed by the Town of Chebeague Island from the Outer Islands.

Article 48: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for County Tax (8900).

The Board recommends: **\$ 214,624.**

Explanation: -.88% (\$-1,903) decrease from FY24 budget. Assessed to the municipality by Cumberland County.

Article 49: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board, upon a majority vote of the Select Board, to exceed by no more than 10% annually, the amount authorized for each account approved in Article 25: through Article 48: above, so long as the overall amount spent for the sum total of those articles does not exceed the total appropriation approved for those articles.

Article 50: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the change of *Indian Island Reserve* account # 9195 to *Storm Damage Repair and Restoration*. Please see description of account in the table below.

Explanation: With an increase and intensity of severe weather storms and the damages that follow, the Selectboard supports a reserve account to Storm Damage. The cost of ongoing discussion of relocation of the parking spaces from the Hook to North Rd. would come from this account.

Article 51: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Capital Improvements (9000).

The Board recommends raising **\$552,500**.

Explanation: 7.88% (\$136,500) increase from FY 24. The table below shows the sum recommended by the Select Board for each capital account. The purpose of the capital account appropriations is to set aside funds for future infrastructure investment as well as vehicle and equipment expenditures. This reduces and avoids a large, one time, appropriation for major expenses in the future.

Account Numbers	Capital Reserve Account Type and Description	Approximate Current Balance	Proposed FY25 to be Raised	Estimated Balance
	Education			
9197	School Capital - Used for the overall improvement of the school.	\$ 66,288.00	.00	\$ 66,288.00
9130	School Special Education - Extra services needed to complete a student's Individual Education Plan and other expenses the School Committee deems necessary.	\$ 145,029.00	.00	\$ 145,029.00
9131	School Transportation -Staff vehicles, purchase of school bus, barging or boat transportation and repairs.	\$ 51,187.00	.00	\$ 51,187.00
9132	School Tuition -Additional money to Yarmouth Middle and High School.	\$ 84,727.00	.00	\$ 84,727.00
9133	School Playground - Improvements and Repair to the playground area and equipment	\$ 7,427.00	.00	\$ 7,427.00
	Public Safety (Fire Department and Rescue)			
9012	Fire Ponds -Capital maintenance and construction of fire ponds.	\$ 4,949.00	.00	\$ 4,949.00
9025	Fire Department -Capital maintenance and replacement of fire trucks, associated firefighting/rescue equipment, and communication equipment and structures.	\$ 134,464.00	\$ 57,500.00	\$ 191,964.00
9060	Harbormaster Vessel - Capital repairs or replacement of the Harbormaster vessels, trailers, and/or motor.	\$ 6,678.00	.00	\$ 6,678.00
9192	Rescue Vehicles & Equipment -Capital maintenance and replacement of the ambulance and its associated rescue equipment.	\$ 99.39	.00	\$ 99.39
	Transportation			
9010	Dredging -Engineering, and maintenance/long-term dredging of the channel and turning basin at the Stone Wharf.	\$ 130,958.00	.00	\$ 130,958.00
9015	Stone Wharf -Engineering, capital maintenance, and construction/re- construction of the Stone Wharf, wharf parking, <i>Stone Wharf Road</i> and wave break structures.	\$ 364,671.00	\$ 270,000.00	\$ 634,671.00
9016	Barge Ramps -Engineering, capital maintenance, and construction/reconstruction of barge ramps.	\$ 30,882.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 50,882.00
9020	Floats and Gangways -Construction and replacement of floats and gangways at Cousins Island, Stone Wharf, and Chandler's Cove. Not used for repair or maintenance.	\$ 33,420.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 48,420.00
9035	Vehicles -Capital maintenance and replacement of town vehicles.	\$ 13,562.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 18,562.00
9050	Roads -Engineering, capital maintenance, roadbed preparation, and resurfacing of public roads and parking areas.	\$ 63,622.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 88,622.00
9055	Public Works Equipment - Capital maintenance and replacement of public works equipment such as tractors, vehicles, plows.	\$ 6,653.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 16,653.00

Account Numbers	Capital Reserve Account Type and Description	Approximate Current Balance	Proposed FY25 to be Raised	Estimated Balance
9198	Cousins Island Parking Reserve- MDOT approved capital maintenance of the parking lot and access road on Cousins Island. Funded at \$2,000 annually per 1999 sublease agreement.	\$ 24,501.00	.00	\$ 24,501.00
Town Owned Facilities				
9030	Building Facilities- Renovation and improvements to Town owned buildings to include Town Garage, Sand Shed, Transfer Station, and Public Safety Building.	\$ 45,179.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 95,179.00
9031	Town Office- A reserve fund to build a new town office and/or renovate the existing one.	\$ 16,326.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 26,326.00
9057	Recycling Compactor- Capital maintenance and replacement of town owned compactors.	\$ 37.70	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,037.00
9059	Cemetery- Capital maintenance and upgrades of the cemetery grounds and structures. This is separate from the perpetual fund.	\$ 6,916.00	.00	\$ 6,918.00
	Cemetery Perpetual Care	\$ 95,735.00	.00	\$ 95,735.00
9034	Broadband- Town ownership of infrastructure of broadband internet service on the island	\$ 49,955.00	.00	\$ 49,955.00
9033	Solar Array Purchase- Purchase of the solar array	\$ 79,455	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 89,455.00
Tax Stabilization				
9040	Reevaluation - Periodic property revaluation work by the Town Assessor or outside contracted services.	\$ 77,031.00	.00	\$ 77,031.00
9040	Grant Matching- Prospective contingency fund used for Town matching share of public or private grant opportunities.	\$ 48,757.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 68,757.00
Environmental Stewardship				
9058	Easement & Drainage- Purchase of rights to permit drainage and maintenance access of drainage systems onto and/or across private property.	\$ 83,966.00	.00	\$ 83,966.00
9070	Coastal Access Fund- Easement purchases and capital structure/road/path construction and repairs facilitating public access to coastal waters and beaches.	\$ 2,952.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 12,952.00
9195	<i>Storm Damage Repair and Restoration Planning, repair, and mitigation to severe weather-related damages. This includes but not limited to engineering studies, emergency repair, and material needed.</i>	\$ 57,573.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 77,573.00
9032	Land Acquisition & Development- Land acquisition, land-use planning, and site development.	\$ 23,270.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 33,270.00
Total		\$ 1,756,404.00	\$ 552,500.00	\$ 2,308,904.00

This balance above reflects the current balances on March 30, 2024. Italicized languages are recommended changes.

MUNICIPAL REVENUE BUDGET

Article 52: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to appropriate all funds raised for the overlay to fund any tax abatements and interest for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Explanation: This article allows the use of funds from the overlay (calculated by the Assessor when the mil rate is set) to be used for any abatements (including any interest).

Select Board recommends: **\$ 250,000**

Explanation: A transfer from Unassigned Fund Balance is made to manage the fund balance and help lower the tax rate. The allowable limits (16%-25%) are based on the Select Board Unassigned Fund Balance Policy. In accordance with the policy, the recommendation is to use \$250,000 toward the FY25 budget to reduce taxation.

Article 53: To see what sum the Town will vote to take from receipts, sources, and designations, to apply against fiscal year 2024-2025 appropriations, and to accept and appropriate any such funds from the State of Maine and the US Government as provided by the State Legislature or Federal Government for the fiscal year 2024-2025.

Select Board recommends: **\$ 264,935.**

Explanation: The total revenues from receipts, sources and designations include \$264,935.

Revenue Account	Proposed Budget
302 AGENT FEE	5,000
303 EXCISE TAX	122,000
304 BOAT EXCISE TAX	8,000
305 INTEREST & PENALTIES	4,500
316 SHELLFISH LICENSES	1,500
331 REVENUE SHARING	41,255
366 BUILDING PERMITS	15,000
367 ELECTRICAL PERMITS	1,500
368 PLUMBING PERMITS	2,500
369 OTHER PERMITS	500
403 MOORING FEES	7,200
411 URBAN RURAL INIT PROGRAM	14,880
418 CHEB. ISLAND SOLID WASTE	30,000
500 RENTAL MOORING FEES	500
501 STONE WHARF PERMITS	8,600
502 TRANSIENT TIE-UP FEES	2,000
TOTAL	\$264,935

Article 54: (Written ballot required by statute): To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Chebeague Island by 30-A M.R.S.A. § 5721-A if the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limit.

OTHER MUNICIPAL ARTICLES

Article 55: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to negotiate and enter leases for vehicles for Town use, and to appropriate funds from the Vehicle Reserve Capital Account to pay the annual costs of such leases.

Article 56: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to submit grant proposals to other governmental entities or private, non-profit foundations for funding of general administration or project-specific expenditures, on behalf of the Town for municipal purposes, including when necessary, the authority to sign grant contracts, documents and/or other paperwork and accept the conditions that accompany grant funds, and to appropriate and expend grant funds for their authorized purposes, as the Select Board deems in the best interests of the Town during the upcoming fiscal year.

Article 57: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers, after notice and hearing, to make final determinations regarding the closing or opening of roads to winter maintenance pursuant to 23 M.R.S.A § 2953.

Article 58: To see if the Town will vote to set the date(s) that fiscal year 2024-2025 Real Estate Taxes are due as September 30, 2024, and March 31, 2025, and to charge interest at the rate of 4.0% per annum for fiscal year 2024-2025 Real Estate Property taxes paid after those dates.

Article 59: To see if the Town will vote to set the interest rates to be paid by the Town on abated and overpaid taxes pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 506-A at 1.0% and to authorize such interest paid or abatements granted to be appropriated from the unassigned fund balance if the overlay is insufficient..

Explanation: This rate must be equal to or no more than 4 percentage points lower than the rate set in the previous article.

Article 60: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the tax collector or treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed, with no interest to be paid on same, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A § 506.

Explanation: This article is necessary to ensure that the bonds covering the treasurer and tax collector will apply to any property tax accepted by them which has not yet been legally committed by the assessor to the collector.

Article 61: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to waive the foreclosure of a tax lien mortgage by recording a waiver of foreclosure at the Registry of Deeds in which the tax lien certificate is recorded prior to expiration of the right of redemption pursuant to 36 M.R.S. § 944 upon a finding by the Select Board that ownership of the property that is subject to the tax lien mortgage would be contrary to the Town's best interests.

Explanation: The waiver of foreclosure is used if the Town knows that there are issues with a property, such as environmental problems, that make it undesirable for the Town to foreclose on the property.

Article 62: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of Town-owned assets (excluding land) with a value of \$10,000 or less, under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

Explanation: This article avoids the necessity of calling a special town meeting every time the town has personal property of little value that the Select Board wishes to sell or otherwise dispose of.

Article 63: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate up to \$15,000 from Undesignated Fund Balance to cover the overdraft in the Following Town Account(s) for Fiscal Year 2024: Administration and Select Board Accounts 1300.

Explanation: The town over expended the administrative budget due to change in staff.

Article 64: To see if the Town will vote to conduct a candidates’ forum here and now to allow the voters to hear statements from candidates (if they wish to make a statement) for the office of selectmen and school committee (candidates whose names appear on the ballot as well as those interested in being write-in candidates). Each statement is limited to 3 minutes.

Explanation: The Town adopted the secret ballot election and voting method on November 19, 2011. This means that the election of both selectmen and school committee members shall be conducted by secret ballot at the voting polls on June 13, 2023, rather than during the open town meeting. Although any party interested in being elected may speak, no nominations are accepted as part of this forum. For a candidate’s name to appear on the ballot he or she must have filed nomination papers in accordance with 30-A M.R.S.A. § 2528.

Article 65: To adjourn the Annual Town Meeting until June 11, 2024, 8:00 AM so that secret ballot votes for local elections (Article 2) may be held at the Chebeague Island Hall Community Center, 247 South Road, and then after the closing of the poll at 8:00 PM and the announcement of the results by the moderator, to adjourn the Town Meeting.

Given unto our hands this ___ day of June 2024, at Chebeague Island, Maine

Robert Earnest, Chair

Mark Dyer- Vice-Chair

David Hill

Carol White

Chebeague Island Select Board

A True Copy, ATTEST

Krista Hayward, Town Clerk
Town of Chebeague Island, Maine