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, **Minutes**

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 7th day of June, 2025 at 9 o'clock in the morning, then and there to act upon Articles 1 and 3 through 62;**

And, to notify and warn said inhabitants to meet at the Chebeague Island Hall Community Center in said town on Tuesday, the 10th of June 2025 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 7, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.

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

Peter Rice was nominated and voted affirmatively by five members of the community

Moderator Peter Rice appointed Abigail Julien as Deputy Moderator

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ELECTION VOTING ARTICLE: 2

VOTING – JUNE 10, 2025 - 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. Two (2) School Board members for a three (3)-year term.

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Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to 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 2025-2026 Warrant.

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

By a 2/3 majority vote the floor of this Town Meeting will be open to all non-registered persons.

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE ARTICLES

Article 4: Shall an ordinance entitled "2025 Amendments to the Growth Management Ordinance of the Town of Chebeague Island, Maine Regarding Application Procedures" be enacted? (A copy of the proposed ordinance is available for review and inspection at the Town Office and will also be available at the Town Meeting).

Motion: Moved by David Hill to approve Article 4 as written; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 4: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 5: Shall an ordinance entitled "2025 Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Chebeague Island, Maine Regarding Parking and Loading Requirements" be enacted? (A copy of the proposed ordinance is available for review and inspection at the Town Office and will also be available at the Town Meeting).

Motion: Moved by David Hill to approve Article 5 as written; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 5: Passed **All in Favor**

EDUCATION BUDGET ARTICLES

AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES IN EDUCATION COST CENTER CATEGORIES

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **$464,471.49** for Regular Instruction.

Explanation: -11.74% ($-61,771.51) decrease from FY 25 budget. This cost center includes the salary and benefits for 2 full-time teachers, the specialists (Art and Music) and half of the associate teacher. It also provides for the supplies and materials needed by teachers to deliver the instructional program. These funds also pay the tuition for the middle and high school students to Yarmouth which is over $15,000 for each student. The enrollment projection for FY26 of

Chebeague Island students enrolled in Yarmouth is 11 students. This is a reduction of 6 students from 2024-2025.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 6 in the amount of $464,471.49; seconded by Jeff Putnam.

Article 6: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **$274,369.48** for Special Education.

Explanation: 22% ($49,479.48) increase from FY 25 budget. This cost center includes the salary and benefits of the staff and materials to pay for the cost of special education services as mandated by students' individualized education plans. For CIS, this includes continuing to fund a full-time teacher and half of the associate teacher. For FY26, there is an additional full-time educational technician included. This also covers the costs of the related services such as speech/language and occupational therapy that some students receive. These funds also pay for the cost of education services for middle and high school students from Chebeague in Yarmouth schools.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 7 in the amount of $274,369.48; seconded by Jeff Putnam

Article 7: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **$0** for Career and Technical Education.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 8 in the amount of $0; seconded by Jeff Putnam

Article 8: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **$0** for Other Instruction.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 9 in the amount of $0; seconded by Jeff Putnam

Article 9: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **$33,929.98** for Student and Staff Support.

Explanation: -4.29% (-1,521.02) decrease from FY 25 budget. This cost center includes course reimbursements for CIS staff, library services for CIS students, and the support of a Social Worker one day per week.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 10 in the amount of $33,929.88; seconded by Jeff Putnam

Article 10: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **$142,382.34** for System Administration.

Explanation: 10.3% ($13,299.34) increase from FY 25 budget. This cost center includes the salary and benefits for the superintendent and half of the administrative assistant. It also includes operational costs for the school department including insurance, phone, postage, printing, and advertising for open positions. Increases because of salary and benefits increases.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 11 in the amount of $142,382.34: seconded by Jeff Putnam.

Article 11: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **$33,463.74** for School Administration.

Explanation: 9.73% ($2,966.74) increase from FY 25 budget. This cost center includes half of the salary and benefits for the administrative assistant as well as the stipend for the lead teacher. It also includes other expenses for the school office including the copier and supplies.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 12 in the amount of $33,463.74: seconded by Jeff Putnam.

Article 12: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **$89,184.59** for Transportation and Buses.

Explanation: -27.09% (-$33,134.41) decrease from FY 25 budget. This cost center includes the salary and benefits for the bus driver. It also includes the contract with the Chebeague Transportation Company that pays for the transportation of middle and high school students to Yarmouth as well as for some staff to travel to school. There are additional costs included for vehicle insurance, maintenance and fuel. The decrease is because of the reduced number of secondary students traveling to Yarmouth and reduced staff and fuel costs on the new bus.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 13 in the amount of $89,184.59; seconded by Jeff Putnam.

Article 13: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **$61,457.57** for Facilities Maintenance.

Explanation: -4.06% (-$2,602.43) decrease from FY 25 budget. This cost center includes the salary and benefits for the custodian position. It also includes the costs associated with cleaning and maintaining the building and grounds as well as the electricity and fuel costs. This cost center also includes the costs for the water testing and systems. The school is no longer responsible for the care and upkeep of the fields.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 14 in the amount of $61,457.57; seconded by Jeff Putnam.

Article 14: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **$37,456.72** for Debt Service and Other Commitments.

Explanation: -68.24% (-$80,466.28) decrease from FY 25 budget. This cost center includes the debt service to MSAD 51 for the expense that was incurred before Chebeague Island became independent. The amount owed was established by a bond that was secured at that time. This is the final payment, and it is significantly reduced. It also includes the school department's contingency line. As a result of the reduced debt service payment, this cost center is down.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 15 in the amount of $37,456.72; seconded by Jeff Putnam.

Article 15: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **$41,457.57** for All Other Expenditures.

Explanation: 16.11% ($5,753.57) increase from FY 25 budget. This cost center is for the food service program for the school. It includes the salary and benefits for the kitchen manager as well as the supplies and other contracted costs associated with maintaining the kitchen, such as the fire suppression system, appliance maintenance and required inspections and licenses. Increase is because of CIS enrollment and increased food costs.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 16 in the amount of $41,457.57; seconded by Jeff Putnam.

Article 16: Passed **All in Favor**

RAISE FUNDS FOR THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **$ 642,663.59** 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 see if the Town will vote to raise **$ 560,382.24** 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.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 17 in the amount of $560,382,24; seconded by Jeff Putnam.

Article 17: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 18: **(Written ballot required.)** Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **$456,509.89** in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by **$415,052.31** 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 kindergarten to grade 12 education program, 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.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 18 in the amount of $456,509.89; seconded by Jeff Putnam.

Article 18: Passed **Yes: 71 No: 3**

SUMMARY THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend **$1,178,173.48** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026 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.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 19 in the amount of $1,178,173.48; seconded by Jeff Putnam.

Article 19: Passed **All in Favor**

EXPENDITURES OF GRANTS AND OTHER RECEIPTS

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend such other sums as may be received from federal or state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school and other program purposes, provided that such grants, programs or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated.

Explanation: CIS receives a grant from the federal government through the Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP). This money is used to ensure that the CIS students have similar opportunities to mainland students. These experiences and receipts are paid for and reimbursed after evidence of 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.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 20 as written; seconded by Jeff Putnam.

Article 20: Passed **All in Favor**

TRANSFERS AMONG COST CENTERS

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to transfer amounts exceeding 5% of the total appropriation for any cost center to another cost center or among other cost centers for the 2025-2026 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.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 21 as written; seconded by Jeff Putnam.

Article 21: Passed **All in Favor**

MUNICIPAL BUDGET ARTICLES

Article 22: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Administration and Select Board Accounts (1300).

The Select Board recommends: $ **360,820.**

Explanation: 7.05% ($23,774) increase from FY25 budget. The increase is due to added cost for Island Institute Fellow, COLA increase and training costs.

Motion: Moved to approve Article 22 in the amount of $360,820; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 22: Passed **All in Favor; save 3**

Article 23: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Assessor(1400).

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

Explanation: No change from FY25 budget.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 23 in the amount of $14,650; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 23: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 24: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Elections (1650).

The Select Board recommends: **$ 3,000.**

Explanation: 200% ($2,000) increase from FY25 budget. The increase is due to raising the minimum wages for the election workers.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 24 in the amount of $3000; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 24: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 25: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Planning (1700).

The Select Board recommends: **$ 9,225.**

Explanation: 126.38% ($5,150). The increase is due to the annual cost for GIS mapping and contracted services with Viewshed to update parcels, shoreland zoning and online maps.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 25 in the amount of $9225; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 25: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 26: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Legal Services(1900).

The Select Board recommends: **$ 20,000.**

Explanation -13.04% (-$3,000) decrease from FY25 budget.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 26 in the amount of $20,000; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 26: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 27: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Law Enforcement Services (2100).

The Select Board recommends: **$ 67,375.**

Explanation: 26.15% ($13,965) increase from FY25 budget. This increase is due to the costs associated with the Cumberland County Sheriff's Department Contract, fuel costs and expansion of the parking attendant position.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to reduce the amount in Article 27 to the amount of $60,375; seconded by Gail Errera.

Motion: Failed

Motion: Moved by David Hill to approve Article 27 in the amount of $67,375; seconded by Eliza Jane Adams.

Article 27: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 28: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Fire and Rescue Department (2200).

The Select Board recommends: **$ 165,470.**

Explanation: 8.12% ($12,425) increase from FY25 budget. The increase is due to the added costs of equipment maintenance, supplies and gear

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 28 in the amount of $165,470; seconded by Eliza Jane Adams.

Article 28: Passed **All in Favor.**

Article 29: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Code Enforcement(2400).

The Select Board recommends: **$ 62,350.**

Explanation: 7.97% ($4,600) increase from FY25 budget. The increase is to reflect the CEO position salary costs.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to reduce the amount of Article 29 to the amount of $60,325; seconded by Gail Errera.

Motion: Failled

Motion: Moved by Daavid Hill to approve Article 29 in the amount of $62,350; seconded by Eliza Jane Adams.

Article 29: Passed **All in Favor, save 1**

Article 30: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Harbormaster and Shellfish Warden account (2500).

The Select Board recommends: **$18,050.**

Explanation: -43.51% ($-13,901) decrease from FY25 budget. The decrease is due to change in the Harbormaster hours as well as the removal of technology costs.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 30 in the amount of $18,050; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 30: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 31: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Animal Control(2600).

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

Explanation: No change from the FY 25 budget.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 31 in the amount of $4850; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 31: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 32: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Public Services(3100).

The Select Board recommends: **$ 227,792.**

Explanation: 16.65% ($32,512) increase from FY 25 budget. The increase is due to added costs in contracted services for float installation, removal and maintenance and needed building maintenance.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 32 in the amount of $227,792; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 32: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 33: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Solid Waste(3200).

The Select Board recommends: **$ 231,790.**

Explanation: -4.14% (-10,012) decrease from FY 25 budget. The decrease is due to adjustments to barging and hauling.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 33 in the amount of $231,790; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 33; Passed **All in Favor**

Article 34: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Cousins Island Dock Reserve Fund (4400).

The Select Board recommends: **$24,847.**

Explanation: 4% ($994) increase from FY25 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.

Motion: Moved by Maark Dyer to approve Article 34 in the amount of $24,847; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 34: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 35: To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for Contributions (4600).

The Select Board recommends raising **$185,597** and authorizing the Select Board to disburse the full amount according to this table:

Contribution Disbursement	Proposed 25-26 to be Raised	Notes
3150 Chebeague Island Library	$25,000	Same as last year
3151 Chebeague Community Ctr.	$37,200	Same as last year
3164 LifeFlight	$397	Same as last year
3166 Island Council	$5,000	$2,000 decrease from last year
3167 Chebeague Recreation Center	$69,500	$10,000 increase from last year
3168 CRC – Kids Place	$30,000	Same as last year
3169 Island Commons Res. Center	$18,500	$8,500 increase from last year
TOTAL	$185,597	

Explanation: 15.28% ($15,251) increase from FY25 budget. If approved, the Select Board will disburse the appropriated funds to the appropriate entities.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 35 in the amount of $185,597; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 35: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 36: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a total of $5,000 for a Contribution (4600-3160) to Chebeague & Cumberland Land Trust and Indian Island Company to help fund the construction of a new and safer public access trail to the shore and sandbar.

Explanation: The town no longer has an easement agreement to the Hook; therefore, it cannot use public monies without the express consent of the Town.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 36 in the amount of $5000; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 36: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 37: 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/Kid's Place, 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.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 37 as written, seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 37: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 38: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for General Assistance(5810).

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

Explanation: No change from FY25 budget.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 38 in the amount of $500; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 38: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 39: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Health Services(5910).

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

Explanation: No change from FY25 budget. This is to pay the duly appointed Health Officer.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 39 in the amount of $2000; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 39: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 40: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Cemetery(6200).

The Select Board recommends: **$ 13,512.**

Explanation: -2.79% (-$388) decrease from FY 25 budget. The decrease is due to a decrease in contracted services.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 40 in the amount of $13,512; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 40: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 41: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Debt Service(6900).

The Select Board recommends: **$ 455,331.**

Explanation: -.84% (-$3,874) decrease from FY25 budget. $200,358 for the Maine Municipal Bond Bank (MMBB) debt from the secession payout to Town of Cumberland; $112,051 for the MMBB debt from the School Construction Project; $21,249 for the MMBB debt from the Plow Truck; $47,089 for the MMBB debt for Dredging and $74,584 for MMBB debt for Broadband.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 41 in the amount of $455,331; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 41 **All in Favor**

Article 42: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Benefits & Insurance(7500).

The Select Board recommends: **$ 265,856.**

Explanation: 30.07% ($61,465) increase from FY25 budget. The increase is because of new employees health insurance costs, benefits and liability insurance.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 42 in the amount of $265,856; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 42: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 43: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Street Lights (8100).

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

Explanation: No change from FY25 budget.

Motion: Moved by Mark Syer to approve Article 43 in the amount of $8400; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 43: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 44: 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 unassigned fund balance(8300).

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

Explanation: No change from FY25 budget.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 44 in the amount of $30,000; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 44: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 45: 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 Select 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.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 45 in the amount of $56,935; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 45: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 46: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for County Tax(8900).

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

Explanation: 9.05% ($19,425) increase from FY25 budget. Assessed to the municipality by Cumberland County.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 46 in the amount of $ 214,624; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 46: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 47: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to exceed by no more than 10% annually, the amount authorized for each account approved in Article 22: through Article 46: 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.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 47 as written; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 47: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 48: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Capital Improvements(9000).

The Select Board recommends raising **$772,000.**

Explanation: 39.73% ($219,500) increase from FY 25. 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 FY26 to be Raised**	Estimated Balance
	Education			
9197	**School Capital** - Used for the overall improvement of the school.	$ 145,456.92	.00	$ 145,456.92
9130	**School Special Education** - Extra services needed to complete a student's Individual Education Plan and other expenses the School Committee deems necessary.	$ 129,378.76	.00	$ 129,378.76
9131	**School Transportation** -Staff vehicles, purchase of school bus, barging or boat transportation and repairs.	$ 5,634.29	.00	$ 5,634.29
9132	**School Tuition** -Additional money to Yarmouth Middle and High School.	$ 118,498.96	.00	$ 118,498.96
9133	**School Playground**- Improvements and Repair to the playground area and equipment	$ 17,922.71	.00	$ 17,922.71
	Public Safety (Fire Department and Rescue)			
9012	**Fire Ponds**-Capital maintenance and construction of fire ponds.	$ 5,117.50	.00	$ 5,117.50
9025	**Fire Department** -Capital maintenance and replacement of fire trucks, associated firefighting/rescue equipment, and communication equipment and structures.	$ 191,993.13	$ 50,000.00	$ 241,993.13
9060	**Harbormaster Vessel**- Capital repairs or replacement of the Harbormaster vessels, trailers, and/or motor.	$ 6,916.40	.00	$ 6,916.40

Account Numbers	Capital Reserve Account Type and Description	Approximate Current Balance	**Proposed FY26 to be Raised**	Estimated Balance
9192	**Rescue Vehicles & Equipment** -Capital maintenance and replacement of the ambulance and its associated rescue equipment.	$ 102.94	**.00**	$ 102.94
	Transportation			
9010	**Dredging**-Engineering, and maintenance/long-term dredging of the channel and turning basin at the Stone Wharf.	$ 135,488.97	**.00**	$ 135,488.97
9015	**Stone Wharf**-Engineering, capital maintenance, and construction/re- construction of the Stone Wharf, wharf parking, Stone Wharf Road and wave break structures.	$ 617,372.98	**$ 300,000.00**	$ 917,372.98
9016	**Barge Ramps**-Engineering, capital maintenance, and construction/reconstruction of barge ramps.	$ 38,094.67	**$ 20,000.00**	$ 58,094.67
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.	$ 32,645.61	**$ 95,000.00**	$ 127,645.61
9035	**Vehicles**-Capital maintenance and replacement of town vehicles.	$ 3,906.48	**.00**	$ 3,906.48
9050	**Roads**-Engineering, capital maintenance, roadbed preparation, and resurfacing of public roads and parking areas.	$ 91,335.98	**$ 25,000.00**	$ 116,335.98
9055	**Public Works Equipment**- Capital maintenance and replacement of public works equipment such as tractors, vehicles, plows.	$ 17,078.67	**$ 50,000.00**	$ 67,078.67
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.	$ 25,318.93	**.00**	$ 25,318.93
	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.	$ 93,258.73	**$ 80,000.00**	$ 173,258.73
9031	**Town Office**-A reserve fund to build a new town office and/or renovate the existing one.	$ 19,868.80	**$ 10,000.00**	$ 29,868.80
9057	**Recycling Compactor**-Capital maintenance and replacement of town owned compactors.	$ 15,621.73	**$ 10,000.00**	$ 25,621.73
9059	**Cemetery**- Capital maintenance and upgrades of the cemetery grounds and structures. This is separate from the perpetual fund.	$ 7,163.51	**.00**	$ 7,163.51
	Cemetery Perpetual Care	$ 99,077.68	**.00**	$ 99,077.68
9034	**Broadband**- Town ownership of infrastructure of broadband internet service on the island	$ 51,737.90	**.00**	$ 51,737.90
9033	**Solar Array Purchase**- Purchase of the solar array	$ 92,401.07	**.00**	$ 92,401.07
	Tax Stabilization			
9045	**Revaluation** -Periodic property revaluation work by the Town Assessor or outside contracted services.	$ 79,721.95	**10,000.00**	$ 89,721.95
9040	**Grant Matching**-Prospective contingency fund used for Town matching share of public or private grant opportunities.	$ 63,238.24	**$ 30,000.00**	$ 96,238.24
	Environmental Stewardship			
9058	**Easement & Drainage**- Purchase of rights to permit drainage and maintenance access of drainage systems onto and/or across private property.	$ 63,477.23	**.00**	$ 63,477.23
9070	**Coastal Access Fund**-Easement purchases and capital structure/road/path construction and repairs facilitating public access to coastal waters and beaches.	$ 21,600.41	**$ 10,000.00**	$ 31,600.41
9195	**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.	$ 70,504.23	**$ 75,000.00**	$ 145,504.23
9032	**Land Acquisition & Development**- Land acquisition, land-use planning, and site development.	$ 34,277.90	**$ 7,000.00**	$ 41,277.90

Account Numbers	Capital Reserve Account Type and Description	Approximate Current Balance	**Proposed FY26 to be Raised**	Estimated Balance
	Total	$ 2,294,213.28	**$ 772,000.00**	$ 3,066,213.28

This balance above reflects the current balances on April 30, 2025. Italicized languages are recommended changes.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 48 in the amount of $772,000; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 48: Passed **All in Favor**

MUNICIPAL REVENUE BUDGET

Article 49: 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 2025-2026.

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).

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 49 as written, seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 49: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 50: To see what sum the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to appropriate from unassigned fund balance (surplus) to reduce the tax burden for the fiscal year 2025-2026.

Select Board recommends: **$ 156,000**

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 $156,000 toward the FY26 budget to reduce taxation.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 50 in the amount of $156,000; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 50: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 51: To see what sum the Town will vote to take from receipts, sources, and designations, to apply against fiscal year 2025-2026 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 2025-2026.

Select Board recommends: **$ 370,959.**

Explanation: The total revenues from receipts, sources and designations include $296,375.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 51 in the amount of $370,959; seconded by Gail Errera.

Revenue Account	Proposed Budget
302 AGENT FEE	5,000
303 EXCISE TAX	130,000
304 BOAT EXCISE TAX	8,000
305 INTEREST & PENALTIES	4,500
316 SHELLFISH LICENSES	1,500
331 REVENUE SHARING	39,995
351 POLICE ISSUED FINES	1,500
364 GROWTH PERMITS	500
366 BUILDING PERMITS	18,000
367 ELECTRICAL PERMITS	2,000
368 PLUMBING PERMITS	2,500
369 OTHER PERMITS	1,000
403 MOORING FEES	8,000
379 INTEREST INCOME	5,000
401 DOG REVENUE	300
411 URBAN RURAL INIT PROGRAM	14,880
418 CHEB. ISLAND SOLID WASTE	50,000
500 RENTAL MOORING FEES	500
501 STONE WHARF PERMITS	8,600
502 TRANSIENT TIE-UP FEES	3,200
6900-691 AXIOM DEBT PAYMENT	74,584
TOTAL	**$370,959**

Article 52: (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.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 52 as written; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 52: Passed **Yes-64 No-7**

OTHER MUNICIPAL ARTICLES

Article 53: 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.

Motion: Moved by Bod Earnest to bundle Articles 53-60; seconded by Phil Merrill.

Motion: Passed **All in Favor, save 2**

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article's 53-60; seconded by Phil Merrill

Article's 53-60: Passed **All in Favor, save 2**

Article 54: 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 55: 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 56: To see if the Town will vote to set the date(s) that fiscal year 2025-2026 Real Estate Taxes are due as September 30, 2025, and March 31, 2026, and to charge interest at the rate of 4.0% per annum for fiscal year 2025-2026 Real Estate Property taxes paid after those dates.

Article 57: 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 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 58: 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 59: 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 60: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of Town-owned personal property 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 61: 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 10, 2025, 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.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to approve Article 61 as written; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 61: Passed **All in Favor**

Article 62: To adjourn the Annual Town Meeting until June 10, 2025, 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.

Motion: Moved by Mark Dyer to close the Town Meeting at 10:57AM; seconded by Gail Errera.

Article 62: Passed **All in Favor**

These minutes respectively submitted by Christine A. Auffant, Deputy Town Clerk