

CHAPMAN TOWN MEETING

A brief presentation was made presenting to Jeff and Elizabeth Clerk the 2024 Spirit of America award for the active engagement and volunteer efforts for the Town of Mapleton, Castle Hill, and Chapman.

At 7:00 PM, Sandra Fournier, Town Manager opened the Annual Town Meeting by reading the following statement:

GREETINGS:

I, Sandra Fournier, Town Clerk of the Town of Chapman, in the County of Aroostook, and the State of Maine, had Betty Ireland notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Chapman, in said county, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Chapman Ridge Runners Snowmobile Clubhouse, in Chapman, on Monday, the 25th day of March, A.D. 2024, at seven o'clock in the evening and then and there to act upon Articles 1 through 33, as set out below, to wit:

Article 1. To elect, *by majority on written ballot*, a moderator to preside at said meeting.

A motion was made by Pat Sutherland, seconded by Mickey Maynard to nominate Mike Ireland as Moderator and to preside at said meeting.

No further nominations were made. Fournier asked for three (3) written ballot to be cast, collected, and counted. All ballots supported Mike Ireland as Moderator.

Article 2. To elect, *by majority on written ballot*, according to the provisions of the Revised Statutes of Maine, Title 30-A Section 2525: One (1) Select Board Member/Assessor for a term of three (3) years and One (1) Select Board Member for a term of three (3) years.

The following nomination papers were received: Select Board Member/Assessor (3yr term) – Milford Maynard. Select Board Member (3yr term) – Terrence Hanlon.

WRITTEN BALLOTS WERE PASSED OUT TO RESIDENTS, COLLECTED AND COUNTED.

*Milford Maynard received 11 yes votes and 0 no votes
Terrence Hanlon received 11 yes votes and 0 no votes*

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Interlocal Agreement between the Towns of Mapleton, Castle Hill, and Chapman.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMEND: Approval

Motion by Sue Maynard, seconded by Terrence Hanlon to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 4. To see if the Town will authorize the municipal officers to choose all other necessary municipal officials for the ensuing year.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Approval

Motion by Dave Gardiner, seconded by Patricia Sutherland to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 5. To see what date the Town will vote taxes to be due and payable.
SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Due and payable upon receipt of bill.

Motion by Patricia Sutherland, seconded by Susan Maynard to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to charge interest on taxes unpaid as of a certain date; if so, how much and what date.
SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: 8.5% effective November 1, 2024

Motion by Patricia Sutherland, seconded by Dave Gardiner to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to set the interest rate to be paid by the Town on abated taxes paid pursuant to the Revised Statutes of Maine, Title 36, Section 506-A, interest rate may not exceed more than 4% less than the delinquent interest tax rate.
SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: 4.5%

Motion by Dave Gardiner, seconded by Susan Maynard to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to allow a discount on 2024 taxes paid before a certain date; if so, how much, and what date.
SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: 1% for 20 days from date of tax bill.

Motion by Patricia Sutherland, seconded by David Gardiner to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 9. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for General Government. Any overdraft to come from the Undesignated Fund Balance.
SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$20,941

Motion by Isaac Braley, seconded by David Gardiner to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 10. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Fire Department. Any overdraft to come from the Undesignated Fund Balance.
SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$19,589

Motion by Patricia Sutherland, seconded by Susan Maynard to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to reallocate 2023 unused appropriated Fire expenses, from the Dry Hydrant Repair account in the amount of \$348, into the Fire Department Pump House Reserve Account.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMEND: Approval

Motion by Patricia Sutherland, seconded by David Gardiner to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to reallocate 2023 unused appropriated Fire expenses, from the Travel & Training accounts in the amount of \$1,092, into the Fire Department Equipment Reserve Account.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMEND: Approval

Motion by Sue Maynard, seconded by David Gardiner to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 13. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Property Services. Any overdraft to come from the Undesignated Fund Balance. Any unused appropriation if the Planning Board and Zoning Board accounts will be carried over to the next year.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMEND: \$774

Motion by Patricia Sutherland, seconded by David Gardiner to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to reallocate 2023 unused appropriated Property Services expenses, from the Planning Board and Zoning Board accounts in the amount of \$216, to be carried over into the 2024 year.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMEND: Approval

Motion by David Gardiner, seconded by Andrew Sutherland to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 15. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Public Safety. Any overdraft to come from the Undesignated Fund Balance.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$32,946

Motion by David Gardiner, seconded by Terrence Hanlon to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 16. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Community Services. Any overdraft to come from the Undesignated Fund Balance.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$7,391

Motion by David Gardiner, seconded by Andrew Sutherland to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 17. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for General Assistance. Any overdraft to come from the Undesignated Fund Balance. Any unused appropriations will be carried over to the next year.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$1,500

Motion by Sue Maynard, seconded by David Gardiner to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 18. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Reserve Accounts.
SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$80,989

Motion by Patricia Sutherland, seconded by David Gardiner to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to approve the following total anticipated revenues from State Revenue Sharing, Local Road Assistance Program, Surplus Use and all other revenues, as estimated, and appropriate said sum for the purpose of reducing the overall Tax Commitment:

State Revenue Sharing	\$ 78,940
Local Road Assistance Program	\$ 19,369
Surplus Use	\$ 70,000
All Other Revenue	<u>\$231,445</u>
TOTAL ANTICIPATED REVENUES	\$399,754

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Approval

Motion by Patricia Sutherland, seconded by Isaac Braley to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$355,643 as its share of Joint Expenses for the fiscal year ending 12/31/2024, said appropriations having been set by the Joint Select Board, pursuant to the Interlocal Agreement and Private and Special Laws of 2009. Said appropriations comprised as follows:

	2024 PROPOSED
General Government	\$ 83,944
Highway	\$171,827
Fire	\$ 28,740
Recreation	\$ 12,707
Property Services	\$ 11,737
Public Safety	\$ 1,944
Community Services	\$ 224
Reserve Accounts	<u>\$ 44,520</u>
TOTAL GOVERNMENT EXPENSES	\$355,643

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Approval

Motion by Patricia Sutherland, seconded by Susan Maynard to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to appropriate all interest earned or capital gains realized on Reserve Accounts as Interest Earned Revenue.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Approval

Motion by David Gardiner, seconded by Susan Maynard to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate all General Assistance reimbursements from the State of Maine to reduce the Town's General Assistance expenses.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Approval

Motion by David Gardiner, seconded by Susan Maynard to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to spend an amount equal to 3/12th of the 2024 budget from January 2025 until a budget is adopted. This will allow the Town to operate during the 3 months prior to the annual town meeting.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Approval

Motion by Patricia Sutherland, seconded by Andrew Sutherland to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to expend funds from the Local Road Improvement reserve account in the best interest of the Town, when proper funds are available.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Approval

Motion by Isaac Braley, seconded by Andrew Sutherland to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to transfer funds received from snowmobile registrations and the Snowmobile Club Trail Maintenance Grant-In-Aid Program to the Chapman Ridge Runners Snowmobile Club, provided they maintain trails for recreational use which may be used by the general public.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Approval

Motion by Andrew Sutherland, seconded by Terrence Hanlon to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to purchase property or equipment to benefit, or for the best interest of the Town, when proper reserve funds are available.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Approval

Motion by Patricia Sutherland, seconded by Andrew Sutherland to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to sell any outdated capital equipment on such terms as they deem advisable and place such funds in the equipment reserve fund, according to the Interlocal Agreement.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Approval

Motion by Sue Maynard, seconded by Andrew Sutherland to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any real estate, however acquired, on such terms as they deem advisable, to execute a municipal quit claim deed without covenants on such property, and to lease property and sell stumpage on such terms as they deem advisable. Real estate sales shall be offered by sealed bid after notice of sale has been advertised for two (2) consecutive weeks, unless the property is offered to the previous owner for accumulated taxes, interest, and other costs against said property, except that the Municipal Officers shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. § 943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s).

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Approval

Motion by Andrew Sutherland, seconded by David Gardiner to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers, on behalf of the Town, to apply for, accept and expend grant funds from state government agencies, federal government agencies, or private organizations, for any purpose they deem in the best interest of the Town.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Approval

Motion by Sue Maynard, seconded by David Gardiner to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers, on behalf of the Town, to accept gifts and real estate which may be given to the Town, and to accept funds from the State of Maine, the United States and from other identified sources, and to appropriate any funds received to specified or appropriate accounts or funds.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Approval

Motion by Isaac Braley, seconded by David Gardiner to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to execute contracts of terms three (3) years or less, for services deemed in the best interest of the Town.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Approval

Motion by David Gardiner, seconded by Susan Maynard to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 32. To see if the Town, in accordance with the Revised Statutes of Maine, Title 36, Section 506, will authorize the tax collector and town treasurer to accept prepayment of taxes not yet committed and to pay no interest thereon.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Approval

Motion by Sue Maynard, seconded by Andrew Sutherland to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Article 33. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board or their designee to accept and to expend funds from the State, Federal, and County Governments related to the American Rescue Plan Act program and if said funds are received, to authorize the municipal officers to make such assurances, assume such responsibilities, and exercise such authority as necessary and reasonable to implement such program, and to disburse such funds for the purpose(s) granted.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: Approval

Motion by Sue Maynard, seconded by Patricia Sutherland to accept the Select Board's Recommendation as written. Motion passed by show of hands.

Mike Ireland adjourn the meeting at 7:30PM

Respectfully submitted,

**Frank Nunez
Deputy Clerk**