

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

BERKSHIRE, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Cheshire in 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 in said Cheshire.

Place: Cheshire Community House, Cafeteria  
(Former Cheshire Elementary School)  
191 Church Street, Cheshire MA 01225

Date: Monday June 10, 2024

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Voter check-in to begin at 6:30 PM

**CHESHIRE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

**ARTICLE 1: Reports of Officers**

To act on the reports of the Town Officers.

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 2: Elected Officials Compensation**

To see if the Town will vote to set the stipends and compensation for all elected officials of the Town as contained in the budget articles and pursuant to the M.G.L., c.41, §108, to be made effective as of July 1, 2024, as contained in the budget, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 3: Disposal of Surplus Property**

To see if the town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of any unused town-owned equipment and/or property in accordance with the law or take any action in relation thereto.

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 4: Authorization for Compensating Balance Agreements**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer to enter into compensating balance agreements for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2024, in accordance with M.G.L. c.44, §53F, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 5: State Aid Highway Programs**

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 Board of Selectmen, or take any action in relation thereto.

*2/3 Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 6: Authorization to Accept/Expend Grants/Gifts to Town**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, execute contracts and expend grants or monies, or any Federal or State grants or monies, received as set forth in the appropriate application, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 7: RESERVE FUND**

To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the sums of **\$20,000** to be used as a **RESERVE FUND**, pursuant to M.G.L. c 40, section 6 for the extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures for Fiscal Year 2025, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*Majority Vote Required*

## ARTICLE 8: GENERAL GOVERNMENT

To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sum of **\$1,509,096** for the conduct of **GENERAL GOVERNMENT**, including all charges and expenses of the various town offices, for Fiscal Year 2025, or take any action in relation thereto:

	FY24 Voted	FY25 Proposed
Legal Services	12,500.00	20,000.00
Moderator Salary	50.00	50.00
Moderator Expenses	25.00	0
Board of Selectmen Stipends (5@\$3,787)	18,935.00	18,935.00
Board of Selectmen Expenses	10,400.00	10,400.00
Clean Lake Program	26,206.00	26,206.00
MS4 – Stormwater Compliance	7,500.00	7,500.00
Group Purchasing (Procurement)	800.00	800.00
Town Audit	10,000.00	10,000.00
Information Technology	45,000.00	52,364.00
Town Website	5,250.00	5,250.00
Town Administrator Salary	85,000.00	90,000.00
Executive Assistant (former Muni Clerk)	0	25,931.00
Municipal Clerk / Asst. Treasurer Collector	45,936.00	0
Town Administrator Expenses	3,000.00	3,000.00
Accounting Services	31,500.00	34,800.00
Accounting Software (VADAR)	4,348.00	4,348.00
Assessors Stipend (Chairperson)	3,883.00	3,883.00
Assessors Stipends (Members 2 @\$3,328)	6,656.00	6,656.00
Assessors Administrator Salary	31,905.00	32,862.00
Assessors Expenses	3,910.00	3,910.00
Assessors Contracted Services	34,140.00	48,985.00
Treasurer/Collector Salary	63,488.00	65,393.00
Asst. Treasurer/Collector Salary	0	20,468.00
Treasurer/Collector Expenses	12,500.00	12,500.00
Treasurer Payroll Processing	2,000.00	4,000.00
Treasurer/Collector Tax Title Expenses	4,000.00	4,000.00
Treasurer/Collector Certification Stipend	1,000.00	1,000.00
QDS Software – RE/PP Collections	3,245.00	3,342.00
Finance Committee Expenses	1,500.00	1,500.00
Town Clerk Salary	27,722.00	28,554.00
Town Clerk Expenses	3,150.00	3,150.00
Town Clerk Dog License Expense	400.00	400.00
Town Clerk Book Repair	2,500.00	2,500.00
Town Clerk Copy Machine Contract	1,500.00	0
Town Clerk Census/Lists	3,200.00	3,200.00
Board of Registrars/Elections	10,000.00	15,000.00
Town Report Printing	2,700.00	2,700.00

Conservation Commission Stipends (3@\$510)	1,530.00	1,530.00
Conservation Commission Consult	500.00	500.00
Conservation Commission Expenses	1,500.00	1,500.00
Planning Board Expenses	2,515.00	2,515.00
Planning Board BRPC Assessment	2,774.00	2,843.00
Planning Board Stipends (5@\$320)	1,600.00	1,600.00
Planning Board Scribe	750.00	0
Agricultural Commission Expenses	500.00	500.00
Historical Commission Expenses	500.00	500.00
Zoning Board of Appeals Expenses	800.00	800.00
Berkshire County Retirement	152,452.00	173,753.00
OPEB Funding	20,000.00	20,000.00
OPEB Actuarial Services Study	2,200.00	2,200.00
Health Insurance – Active	230,063.00	265,726.00
Health Insurance – Retiree	42,295.00	40,000.00
Health Insurance – Dental	8,500.00	8,500.00
Unemployment	10,000.00	5,000.00
MEDC Employer Share	16,000.00	16,500.00
Town Hall/Police Utilities	32,100.00	25,000.00
Fire Station Utilities	18,500.00	15,000.00
Town Garage Utilities	15,000.00	13,000.00
Senior Center Utilities	7,000.00	7,500.00
Town Phone Systems	15,000.00	15,000.00
Community House Utilities	60,000.00	70,000.00
Town Building Repairs	125,000.00	120,000.00
ADA Compliance	0	5,000.00
Town Insurance & Bonds	99,563.00	104,542.00
Police/Fire Accident/Disability Insurance	15,620.00	16,500.00
<b>TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>1,408,111.00</b>	<b>1,509,096.00</b>

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 9: HOOSAC VALLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

To see if the Town will approve the Hoosac Valley Regional School District Budget for Fiscal Year 2025 and **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** or **TRANSFER FROM AVAILABLE FUNDS \$3,098,996** to pay its assessed share of the budget or take any action in relation thereto.

	<b>FY24 Vote</b>	<b>FY25 Proposed</b>
HVRSD Minimum Local Contribution	2,219,724.00	2,350,010.00
HVRSD Over Minimum Foundation	405,970.00	406,505.00
HVRSD Transportation	133,032.00	135,355.00
HVRSD Capital Expenditure	189,736.00	207,126.00
<b>HVRSD SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>2,948,462.00</b>	<b>3,098,996.00</b>

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 10: NORTHERN BERKSHIRE VOCATIONAL REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

To see if the Town will approve the Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School District Budget for Fiscal Year 2025 and **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE \$547,430.00** to pay its assessed share of the budget or take any action in relation thereto.

	<b>FY24 Vote</b>	<b>FY25 Proposed</b>
NBVRSD Budget	564,446.00	547,430.00
<b>OTHER EDUCATION SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>564,446.00</b>	<b>547,430.00</b>

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 11: BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sum of **\$41,008** for the **BUILDING DEPARTMENT** for Fiscal Year 2025, or take any action in relation thereto:

	<b>FY24 Proposed</b>	<b>FY25 Proposed</b>
Building Commissioner Salary	18,000.00	18,540.00
Alternate Building Commissioner Salary	500.00	500.00
Building Commissioner Expenses	1,100.00	1,100.00
Online Permitting System	5,075.00	5,400.00
Gas/Plumbing Inspector Salary	5,900.00	6,077.00
Gas/Plumbing Inspector Assistant Salary	549.00	549.00
Gas/Plumbing Expenses	500.00	500.00
Wiring Inspector Salary	6,857.00	7,063.00
Wiring Inspector Assistant Salary	579.00	579.00
Wiring Inspector Expenses	700.00	700.00
<b>TOTAL BUILDING DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>39,760.00</b>	<b>41,008.00</b>

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*  
*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 12: PUBLIC SAFETY**

To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sum of **\$468,052** for **PUBLIC SAFETY** for Fiscal Year 2025, or take any action in relation thereto:

	<b>FY24 Voted</b>	<b>FY25 Proposed</b>
Police Chief Salary	82,392.00	84,864.00
Police Full Time Officer Wages	108,551.00	172,658.00
Police Department Part Time Officers	26,664.00	17,885.00
Police Department Expenses	5,000.00	13,500.00
Police Department Equipment	10,500.00	20,400.00
Police Department Auto Expenses	15,000.00	8,000.00
Police Department Officer OT/Holiday Pay	8,000.00	12,500.00
Animal Control Contracted Services	3,000.00	3,000.00
Animal Control Expenses	1,000.00	1,000.00
Fire Chief Salary	12,000.00	12,360.00
Asst. Fire Chief Stipends (2@1,615)	3,230.00	3,326.00
Fire Department Expenses	62,000.00	62,000.00
Fire Department Volunteer Stipends (25)	25,000.00	25,000.00
Fire Department EMS Supplies	4,500.00	4,500.00
Communications Center (Dispatch)	24,000.00	24,559.00
Emergency Management Director Stipend	1,500.00	1,500.00
Emergency Management Expenses	1,000.00	1,000.00
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY TOTAL</b>	<b>393,337.00</b>	<b>468,052.00</b>

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*  
*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 13: HIGHWAY OPERATIONS AND TREE WARDEN**

To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sum of **\$1,047,592** for **HIGHWAY OPERATIONS AND TREE WARDEN** for Fiscal Year 2025, or take any action in relation thereto:

	<b>FY23 Voted</b>	<b>FY25 Proposed</b>
Highway Workers Wages (3 Laborers, 1 Foreman)	209,911.00	229,208.00
Seasonal DPW Laborers (Cemetery) Wages	37,822.00	27,822.00
Highway Department Longevity (contract)	1,500.00	1,500.00
Department of Public Works Director	90,000.00	79,100.00
Custodian Wages	19,648.00	20,237.00
Highway Department Non-Winter Overtime	5,000.00	5,000.00
Highway Department Dues/Training/Licenses	1,000.00	1,000.00
Facilities/Grounds Wages	49,466.00	50,950.00
Road Machinery, Tools, Gas	126,000.00	126,000.00
Streetlights	53,000.00	60,000.00
Highway Department Repair/Maint. Roads	207,000.00	207,000.00
Highway Equipment Rental	5,000.00	5,000.00
Snow and Ice	170,000.00	170,000.00
Highway Department Engineering	35,000.00	35,000.00
Tree Warden Tree Removal	20,000.00	20,000.00
Tree Warden Tree Replacement	1,000.00	1,000.00
Cemetery Commission Stipends	2,661.00	2,661.00
Cemetery Commission Expenses	8,114.00	6,114.00
<b>DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS</b>	<b>1,042,122.00</b>	<b>1,047,592.00</b>

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 14: RECREATION AND CULTURE**

To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sum of **\$85,328** for **RECREATION AND CULTURE** for Fiscal Year 2025, or take any action in relation thereto.

	<b>FY24 Voted</b>	<b>FY25 Proposed</b>
Recreation General Expenses/Memorial Day	12,000.00	10,300.00
Library Assessment	39,442.00	40,428.00
Father Tom Campsite	0	1,700.00
Veteran Agent Services (Shared)	2,000.00	2,000.00
Veteran Benefits	30,000.00	30,000.00

Cemetery Flags	800.00	900.00
<b>TOTAL RECREATION &amp; CULTURE</b>	<b>84,242.00</b>	<b>85,328.00</b>

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 15: HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sum of **\$100,364.00** for **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** for Fiscal Year 2025, or take any action in relation thereto.

	<b>FY24 Voted</b>	<b>FY25 Proposed</b>
Board of Health Stipends (3 @ \$3,883)	11,649.00	11,649.00
Board of Health Expenses	5,500.00	5,500.00
Board of Health/ Health Inspector Services	0	5,000.00
Board of Health MAVEN Reporting	4,525.00	4,639.00
Senior Center/COA Expenses	8,470.00	8,470.00
Senior Center/COA Van Operating Expenses	5,900.00	3,400.00
Senior Center/COA Van Operator Salary	19,138.00	19,712.00
Council on Aging Medical Car Ride Share	1,500.00	0
Senior Center Director Salary	26,771.00	27,574.00
Senior Center Meals Coordinator Salary	13,311.00	13,710.00
Animal Inspector Stipend	544.00	560.00
Animal Inspector Expenses	150.00	150.00
<b>TOTAL HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</b>	<b>97,458.00</b>	<b>100,364.00</b>

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 16 : TRANSFER STATION ENTERPRISE FUND - Adoption**

To see if the Town will accept the Provisions of Chapter 44, Section 53F1/2 of the Massachusetts General Laws establishing a **Transfer Station Enterprise Fund** effective fiscal year 2025, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*Majority Vote Required*



**ARTICLE 17 : TRANSFER STATION ENTERPRISE FUND**

To see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** from user fees or otherwise provide the following sums of money \$106,090 to operate the **TRANSFER STATION ENTERPRISE FUND AND TO RAISE AND APPROPRIATE FROM THE GENERAL FUND THE SUM OF \$61,079** for the Fiscal Year 2025, or take an action in relation thereto.

<b>Revenues</b>	
Department Receipts	106,090.00
General Fund Subsidy	61,079.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>167,289.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Hauling and Disposal	100,000.00
Site Maintenance	2,600.00
Training and Education	500.00
Permits and Tags	4,500.00
Attendants Wages	24,689.00
Recycling Account	35,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>167,289.00</b>

*Board of Selectmen Recommends  
Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 18 : DEBT SERVICE EXPENSES**

To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the following sum of \$168,817 to fund **DEBT SERVICE EXPENSES** for the Fiscal Year 2025, or take any action in relation thereto.

	<b>FY24 Voted</b>	<b>FY25 Proposed</b>
Well Land Bond Payment (2024)	104,750.00	0
Fire Truck (2030)	45,463.00	44,665.00
Highway Grader (2026)	37,567.00	36,200.00
Highway Truck (Voted 2022)	54,708.00	53,345.00
Highway Truck (Voted 2021)	30,460.00	29,607.00
Short-term Debt Interest	5,000.00	5,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>277,948.00</b>	<b>168,817.00</b>

*Board of Selectmen Recommends  
Majority Vote Required*

## **ARTICLE 19: Revolving Fund Bylaw**

To see if the town will vote to amend the general by-laws of the Town of Cheshire by adding a new section to establish and authorize revolving funds for use by certain town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53 E ½, or take any other action relative thereto.

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*Majority Vote Required*

ARTICLE (of the general by-laws)

### **DEPARTMENTAL REVOLVING FUNDS**

1. Purpose. This by-law establishes and authorizes revolving funds for use by town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers in connection with the operation of programs or activities that generate fees, charges or other receipts to support all or some of the expenses of those programs or activities. These revolving funds are established under and governed by General Laws Chapter 44 § 53E1/2.

2. Expenditure Limitations. An authorized department or agency head, board, committee or officer may incur liabilities against and spend monies from a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law without appropriation subject to the following limitations:

A. Fringe benefits of full-time employees whose salaries or wages are paid from the fund shall also be paid from the fund (except for those employed as school bus drivers.)

B. No liability shall be incurred in excess of the available balance of the fund.

C. The total amount spent during a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount authorized by this by-law, or town meeting on or before July 1 of that fiscal year, or any increased amount of that authorization that is later approved during that fiscal year by the selectboard and finance committee.

3. Interest. Interest earned on monies credited to a revolving fund established by this by-law shall be credited to the general fund.

4. Procedures and reports. Except as provided in General Laws Chapter 44 §53E1/2 and this by-law, the laws, by-laws, rules, regulations, policies or procedures that govern the receipt and custody of town monies and the expenditure and payment of town funds shall apply to the use of a revolving fund established and authorized by this by-law. The town accountant shall include a statement on the collections credited to each fund, the encumbrances and expenditures charged to the fund and the balance available for expenditure in the regular report the town accountant provides the department, board, committee, agency or officer on appropriations made for its use.

5. Authorized Revolving Funds. The Table establishes:

A. Each revolving fund authorized for use by a town department, board, committee, agency or officer.

B. The department or agency head, board, committee or officer authorized to spend from each fund.

C. The fees, charges and other monies charged and received by the department, board, committee, agency or officer in connection with the program or activity for which the fund is established that shall be credited to each fund by the Town Accountant.

D. The expenses of the program or activity for which each fund may be used.

E. Any restrictions or conditions on expenditures from each fund.

F. Any reporting or other requirements that apply to each fund, and

G. The fiscal years each fund shall operate under this by-law.

Revolving Fund	Entity Authorized to Spend from Fund	Fee, Charges, or Receipts Credited to Fund	Program or Activity Expenses Payable from Fund	Restrictions or Conditions on Expenses Payable from Fund	Fiscal Years
Senior Center/COA	Senior Center Director	Receipts related to program fees	Senior Center Programs	Limit of \$10,000	Fiscal Year 2025 and Subsequent Years
Recreation	Recreation Committee/Board of Selectmen	Receipts related to program fees	Recreation Committee Programs	Limit of \$10,000	Fiscal Year 2025 and Subsequent Years
Police Department	Police Chief	Receipts from Detail Fees	Police Cruiser Expenses	Limit of \$10,000	Fiscal Year 2025 and Subsequent Years

*(The Municipal Modernization Act required that Revolving Funds become a town general bylaw rather than have general articles for Revolving Funds each year. Once established in a general bylaw, then each year the only vote necessary would be to authorize the spending limits for each fund. In addition for the authorization there must be five separate categories authorized, name of the fund; person or body authorized to expend the funds, source of the funds, use of the funds and the spending limit.)*

**ARTICLE 20 : CAPTIAL STABLIZATION FUND**

To see if the Town will vote to **RAISE AND APPROPRIATE** the sum of **\$10,000** to fund the **CAPITAL STABLIZATION FUND** for Fiscal Year 2025, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 21: Police Cruiser – Debt Exclusion**

To see if the Town will vote to **APPROPRIATE** a sum not to exceed **\$66,151.00** and to authorize the Treasurer , per MGL Chapter 44, Section 2, to borrow **\$66,151.00** for the purpose of purchasing a new Police Cruiser on a one year note to be paid by June 30, 2025, contingent upon subsequent passage of a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion vote, or take any other action in relation thereto.

*(This article requires a two-thirds vote for borrowing approval and subsequent majority vote for a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion to be held at a future election.)*

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*2/3 Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 22: Fire Truck – Debt Exclusion**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer, per MGL Chapter 44, Section 2, to borrow a sum not to exceed **\$850,000** (eight-hundred fifty thousand dollars) for the purpose of purchasing a new Fire Engine , contingent upon subsequent passage of a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion vote, or take any other action in relation thereto.

*(This article requires a two-thirds vote for borrowing approval and subsequent majority vote for a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion to be held at a future election.)*

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*2/3 Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 23: Water Department Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings**

To see if the Town will vote to **TRANSFER** the sum of **\$167,118** from available certified Water Operations Surplus for the purpose of conducting Phase 2- North State Water Main Replacement (Crest Road to East View Drive), or take any action relative thereto.

*Current balance of Cheshire Water Department retained earnings is \$258,082*

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*Water Commission Recommends*

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 24 : Water Enterprise Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, transfer from retained earnings, or otherwise provide the following sums of money **\$345,060** to operate the **Water Enterprise Fund** for the Fiscal Year 2025, or take an action in relation thereto.

<b>Revenues</b>	
Department Receipts	345,060.00
Retained Earnings	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>345,060.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Water Commissioner Stipends	9,939.00
Water Operator Salary	61,800.00
Secondary Water Operator Salary	15,600.00
Water Department Collector Salary	6,823.00
Water Main Replacements	90,000.00
Water Operating Expenses	45,000.00
Water Maintenance Expenses	45,000.00
Water Debt Service	63,398.00
Water Vehicle Expense	7,500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>345,060.00</b>

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*Water Commission Recommends*

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 25 : Free Cash to reduce the tax rate**

To see if the Town will vote to **TRANSFER** from **FREE CASH** a sum and **TRANSFER FROM GENERAL STABILIZATION** a sum to reduce the FY25 Tax Rate, or take any action relative thereto.

\*If federal or state programs, or other alternative funding sources are available to supplant Town funding for the same purpose, the Board of Selectmen may reduce the Town's portion of said funding in a manner commensurate with the additional federal or state revenue received for said purpose.

Note: The use of Free Cash to balance the operating budget to stay within the limits of Proposition 2 1/2, this is not a reduction to the tax rate.

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 26 : LOCAL OPTION – Meals Tax**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt G.L. Chapter 64L, Section 2(a) to impose a local sales tax upon the sale of restaurant meals within the town, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 27 : MGL regarding Collector Office**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt MGL Chapter 41, Section 38A to expand the authority of the collector office to receive and collect all monies or accounts due a municipality, or take any action in relation thereto.

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 28 : Short-Term Rental Standards General Bylaw**

To see if the town will vote to amend the general by-laws of the Town of Cheshire by adding a new section to establish Short-Term Rental Standards, or take an action in relation thereto.

**Standards for Short-Term Rentals**

The Town of Cheshire supports the safe and legal operation of Short-Term Rental dwellings to support the local economy and offer a variety of overnight lodging options for visitors to the Town. The performance standard section will offer the assurance that all Short-Term Rental properties will be acceptable uses within the Town of Cheshire if the Performance Standards are met for any given property and that the property owner has applied for and received a Registration of the property as a short-term rental and applied for and received a Business Certificate.

1. The property owner must apply to register the property on a form provided by the Town of Cheshire and receive a Business Certificate from the Town of Cheshire.
2. The property shall follow all relevant state and local statutes, rules and regulations pertaining to health and safety.
3. The property owner shall provide, with the Registration Application, a copy of the Registration Certificate with the MA Department of Revenue for each dwelling unit they are registering.
4. A registration fee of \$100 shall be paid at the time of registration and \$100 at each annual renewal.
5. A lack of compliance with these standard or any complaint arising from the use of the property

will be referred to the appropriate town department for investigation. If the property owner is found to be in violation of Performance Standard, the Short-Term Rental Registration may be revoked after a hearing with seven (7) days advance notice and may not be renewed until the property complies.

*Board of Selectmen Recommends*

*Majority Vote Required*

**ARTICLE 29: Uncombine Treasurer/Tax Collector position**

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to MGL Chapter 4, Section 4 B and MGL Chapter 41, Section 1B to uncombine the appointed position of Treasurer/Tax Collector and have separate positions Treasurer and Collector, or take any other action in relation thereto.

*(A majority vote at subsequent Town Election ballot question is required to adopt the provisions of this warrant article as it was combined by town meeting vote on June 14, 2021)*

**ARTICLE 30: Town Clerk Appointed**

To see if the Town will vote, as authorized under MGL Chapter 41, Section 1B to change the position of Town Clerk to an appointed position from an elected position, or take any action in relation thereto.

*(A majority vote at subsequent Town Election ballot question is required to adopt the provisions of this warrant article. If approved, the action will take effect in May 2027, which is the end of the current Town Clerk's term.)*

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at the CHESHIRE TOWN HALL and the CHESHIRE POST OFFICE in said Town, seven (7) days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

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 this day under our hands this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May in the year 2024.



Shawn McGrath - Chair



Cheshire Board of Selectmen

Jason Levesque- Vice-Chair



Raymond Killeen - Member



Michelle Francesconi - Member



Ronald DeAngelis – Member

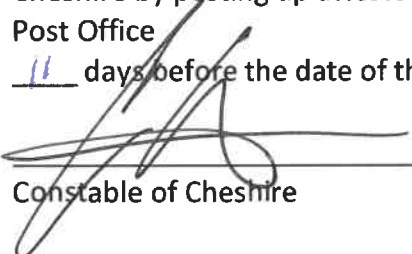
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A true copy. Attest: Christopher Garner Constable  
Berkshire, SS

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 the Cheshire Town Hall and the Cheshire  
Post Office

11 days before the date of the meeting as within directed.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Constable of Cheshire

5/29/2024  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date