WARNING
TOWN OF CHARLOTTE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
2016

The legal voters of the Town of Charlotte are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Charlotte Central School Multi-Purpose Room in said Town on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at nine o'clock in the forenoon to act upon any of the following articles not involving voting by Australian Ballot, and to meet at the Charlotte Central School Multi-Purpose Room in said Town on the same date to vote by Australian Ballot to begin at seven o'clock in the forenoon and to close at seven o'clock in the afternoon.

Article 1: To hear the reports of the Town officers and to act upon the same.

Article 2: Will the Town vote to have Property Taxes payable on or before November 15, 2016 and to have payments made to the Town Treasurer under 32 VSA § 4773?

Article 3: Will the Town vote pursuant to 32 VSA §3840 to exempt property owned by the Charlotte Grange 398 located on Spear Street from education and municipal property taxes for a period of five years commencing with FY16-17?

Article 4: Will the Town adopt the Selectboard's budget of $3,013,563 for the fiscal year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 of which an anticipated sum of $1,618,786 shall be raised by taxes and an anticipated sum of $1,394,777 will be raised by non-tax revenues?

Article 5: Will the Town authorize the Selectboard to allocate annually monies from the General Fund budget to the Conservation Fund in an amount not to exceed two cents on the tax rate?

Article 6: Will the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenues for the next fiscal year?

Article 7: To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting.

BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

Article 8: To elect Town Officers.

Article 9: Shall the Town submit to the General Assembly of the State of Vermont a proposal to adopt a municipal charter which contains the following sections:

Section 1: Corporate Existence
Section 2: General Provisions
Section 3: Adoption of Annual Budget and Budget Related Articles
Section 4: Separability
Section 5: Amendment
Section 6: Effective Date
Section 7: Sunset

The Charter in its entirety is available for inspection at the Charlotte Town Office during regular office hours, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Charter is also available for review on the Town's website at www.charlottevt.org.

Article 10: Shall the Town vote to amend the 2013 Charlotte Town Plan to add a statement supporting consideration of Village Center Designation ("Town Plan Amendment #1"), pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 4385, as approved by the Selectboard on January 11, 2016? (Copies of the proposed amendment to the Charlotte Town Plan are available for review at the Town offices and on the Town's website at www.charlottevt.org.)

Article 11: Shall the Town vote to amend the 2013 Charlotte Town Plan to amend and update the energy sections, Sections 4.8 and 5.10, in Charlotte Today and Charlotte Tomorrow ("Town Plan Amendment #2"), pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 4385, as approved by the Selectboard on January 11, 2016? (Copies of the proposed amendment to the Charlotte Town Plan are available for review at the Town offices and on the Town's website at www.charlottevt.org.)

Article 12: Shall the Town vote to amend the Town of Charlotte Land Use Regulations to add energy project siting standards in Section 4.20 (new) and Section 5.5 ("Bylaw #1") pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 4442, as approved by the Selectboard on January 11, 2016? (Copies of the proposed amendment to the Land Use Regulations are available for review at the Town offices and on the Town's website at www.charlottevt.org.)

Article 14: Shall the Town vote to amend the Town of Charlotte Land Use Regulations to make technical clarifications and corrections ("Bylaw #2") pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 4442, as approved by the Selectboard on January 11, 2016, but not including any amendments to Section 3.12(A)? (Copies of the proposed amendment to the Land Use Regulations are available for review at the Town offices and on the Town's website at www.charlottevt.org.)

Dated this 25th day of January, 2016 at Charlotte, Vermont.

Selectboard

Lane Morrison, Chair | Fritz Tegatz | Matthew Krasnow

Carrie Spear | Jacob Spell

Received for record this 25th day of January, 2016.

Mary A. Mead, Town Clerk

INFORMATION REGARDING REGISTRATION AND VOTING

Register To Vote: Your application must be received by 5:00 p.m., Wednesday February 24, 2016 at the Town Clerk's Office. If you never voted in Vermont before and you registered individually by mail, you must provide identification before you can vote a regular ballot: current valid photo I.D., or a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document showing your name and current address. If you do not provide I.D., you will be offered a provisional ballot.

Casting a provisional ballot: If you accept the offer to vote a provisional ballot, you must complete a sworn affidavit on the provisional ballot envelope swearing that you are qualified to vote in Vermont and in the polling place where you are, and that you submitted an application to register to vote before the deadline. You will be given a card explaining how you can find out if your ballot was counted one week after the special meeting by calling the Vermont Secretary of State's Office at 1-800-439-8683.

If your name was dropped from the checklist in error, or has not been added even though you submitted an application before the deadline for applications: Explain the situation to your town clerk or presiding officer and ask that your name be added to the checklist. The town clerk or presiding officer will investigate the situation and then either have you complete a sworn affidavit and then add your name to the checklist or explain why you cannot be added. If the town clerk or presiding officer cannot determine that you are entitled to be added to the checklist on the date of the special meeting, you may appeal to a superior court judge, who will give you a decision on the date of the special meeting OR you may vote a provisional ballot. It is your choice.

Absentee ballots and early voting: You can request early absentee ballots at any time during the election year. The latest you can request ballots for this meeting is the close of the town clerk's office (4:00 p.m.) on February 29, 2016. You or a family member can request early ballots in person, in writing or by telephone. An authorized person can request ballots for you in writing.

Methods of voting early/absentee before the special meeting:

1. Vote in town clerk's office on or before February 29, 2016.
2. Voter may take the ballots out of the clerk's office for himself/herself and return in same manner as if the ballots were received by mail.
3. Have ballot mailed to you and return it to clerk's office before the day of the special meeting or to polling place before 7 p.m. on the date of the special meeting.

4. If you are sick or disabled, you may ask the town clerk on or before February 29, 2016, to have two justices of the peace bring a ballot to you at your home.

Any voter who wants assistance for any reason may bring the person of his or her choice into the voting booth to help or may ask for assistance from two election officials. Voters who cannot get from the car into the polling place may have a ballot brought to a car outside the polls by the two election officials.

Any U.S. citizen and resident of a Vermont town or city who submitted an application to register to vote before the deadline is entitled to vote regardless of race or physical ability.

THE LAW PROHIBITS THE FOLLOWING—DO NOT:

- Vote more than once per election, either in the same town or in different towns.
- Mislead the board of civil authority about your own or another person's eligibility to vote.
- Socialize in a manner that will disturb other voters inside the polling place. Offer a bribe, threaten, or intimidate a person to vote in a particular manner.
- Hinder or interfere with the progress of a voter going into or from a polling place. Vermont law provides that a person cannot campaign within a polling place, but does NOT specify any number of feet that campaigners need to be away from the polls outside. The presiding officer will set reasonable rules for where campaigners can stand.

The election officials at the polling place are there to serve you. If you have any questions or need assistance while voting, ask your town clerk or any election official for help. If you do not understand something, or you believe a mistake has been made that has not been corrected, or you have a question that cannot be answered to your satisfaction at the polling place, call the Elections Division, Office of the Secretary of State: 1-800-439-VOTE (439-8683) (Accessible by TDD).

If you believe that any of your voting rights have been violated, you may call the Elections Division at 800-439-8683 or (802) 828-2464. You may also file an Administrative Complaint with the Secretary of State's Office, 128 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633-1101.

If you believe you have witnessed efforts to commit any kind of fraud or corruption in the voting process, you may report this to your local United States Attorney's Office, the County State's Attorney or the Vermont Attorney General.

If you have witnessed actual or attempted acts of discrimination or intimidation in the voting process, you may report this to the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice at (800) 253-3931.