

**WARNING
TOWN OF CHARLOTTE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
2017**

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 7, 2017 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, 2017 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 Charlotte Volunteer Fire & Rescue Services, Inc. from education and municipal property taxes for a period of five years commencing with fiscal year 2017-18?

Article 4: Will the Town vote pursuant to 32 VSA § 3840 to exempt property owned by the Friendship Lodge #24 F&AM located on Church Hill Road from education and municipal property taxes for a period of five years commencing with fiscal year 2017-18?

Article 5: Will the Town approve the Selectboard's budget of \$_____ for the fiscal year July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 of which an anticipated sum of \$_____ will be raised by taxes and an anticipated sum of \$_____ will be raised by non-tax revenues, which approval shall not become effective until said budget is adopted by Australian ballot vote in accordance with the requirements of the charter of the Town of Charlotte?

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: Will the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to use no more than \$156,250 from the Fire and Rescue Capital Reserve Fund ~~for the purpose of purchasing~~ towards the purchase of a replacement for the 1980 Fire Department Pumper Truck?

Article 8: Will the Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to borrow no more than \$85,000 from Charlotte Housing Trust Fund at an interest rate of ___% for a period of sixteen years for the purpose of constructing an extension of the Thompson's Point wastewater system to serve seven lots on Lane's Lane?

Article 9: Will the Town vote to authorize an allocation of excess capacity of the municipal wastewater system in the west Charlotte village for private uses within the village as provided by 24 V.S.A. §3625 in a manner where all costs (~~including the Town's cost to construct the existing system~~) are borne by system users? (Either delete article, or add "Advisory Article")

Article 10: To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting.

BY AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

Article 11: To elect Town Officers.

Article 12: Shall the bonds of the Town of Charlotte in amount not to exceed Four Hundred Sixty-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$468,750) (add \$5,000 for associated legal costs?) be issued for the purposes of purchasing a new replacement fire pumper truck and related equipment for use by Charlotte Volunteer Fire & Rescue Services?

Dated this ___th day of January, 2017 at Charlotte, Vermont.

Selectboard

Lane Morrison, Chair

Fritz Tegatz

Matthew Krasnow, Vice Chair

Carrie Spear

Jacob Spell

Received for record this _____ day of January, 2017.

Mary A. Mead, Town Clerk

INFORMATION REGARDING REGISTRATION AND VOTING

~~Register To Vote~~—HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE: There is no deadline to register to vote. You will be able to register to vote on the day of the election. You can register prior to the day of the election by visiting the town clerk's office or by going online to www.olvr.sec.state.vt.us.

~~Your application must be received by 5:00 p.m., _____ day, _____ 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 _____. 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 _____.
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 _____, 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.