



Select Board Meeting

Minutes

Monday, May 18, 2026 at 5:15 pm

All participants are welcome to join in person. You may watch via Livestream and see prior meetings at: https://townhallstreams.com/towns/china_me

You may also join via Zoom

Please visit <https://chinamaine.org/> and access the calendar for the Zoom link for the meeting.

The meeting will convene at 5:15 p.m. at the Weeks Mills School house located at 12 Deer Hill Road to review

The Spirit of America award ceremony was held at 6:30 p.m.

Chair Brent Chesley presented the Spirit of America youth award to China Middle School students Finn Henderson and Spencer Stephenson. These young men stepped up to help a fellow student and their family after realizing they were in need.

1. Call to Order

Minutes:

Chair Brent Chesley opened the meeting at 5:15 pm at the Weeks Mills School House located at 12 Deer Hill Road. Public Services Director Shawn Reed led the tour and answered questions. The visit concluded at 5:22 p.m. and returned to the town office.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes:

Chair Brent Chesley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

Minutes:

Select Board members present: Thomas Rumpf, Edwin Bailey, Natasha Littlefield and Brent Chesley; Absent: Blane Casey Town Manager: Rebecca Hapgood Others present: Harold Charles, Robin Sabattus, Mary Grow, Kyle Pierce, Tim Hatch, Judith Hsiang, Carol Thibodeau, Andrew Carlton, Heather Neal, John Soifer, Lou King, The Stephenson extended family including Spencer Stephenson and The Henderson extended family including Finn Henderson. Online: Elaine Philbrook

4. Agenda – Welcome; agenda and decorum review

5. Approval of 5/4/2026 minutes

Minutes:

Motion by Edwin Bailey and second by Natasha Littlefield to approve the May 4, 2026 minutes with one spelling correction.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

6. Payroll Warrant #47 - \$43,580.64

Minutes:

Motion by Thomas Rumpf and second by Edwin Bailey to approve the payroll warrant as presented.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

7. Payables Warrant #48 - \$732,378.61

Minutes:

Motion by Edwin Bailey and second by Natasha Littlefield to approve the payables warrant as presented.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

8. Unfinished Business

a. Paul Froman's role for CESAC

Minutes:

There was a short discussion. This topic will be added to the June 1st agenda.

9. New Business

a. RSU 18 Superintendent Andrew Carlton, RSU 18 Director Heather Neal and RSU 18 Director John Soifer

Minutes:

The board listened to a short presentation from Superintendent Andrew Carlton on the proposed RSU 18 budget and the China Schools. RSU18 Directors John Soifer and Heather Neal who represent China also attended.

b. Countersigning of RSU 18 election warrant

Minutes:

Motion by Edwin Bailey and second by Thomas Rumpf to countersign the RSU 18 election warrant.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

c. Update from China for a Lifetime - Garden Committee

Minutes:

Jude Hsiang and Carol Thibodeau of the CFAL Committee and China Community Garden provided an update on the fence posts and the future of

the gardens. There are 33 returning gardeners and 36 beds total. Two gardens are used to provide produce for the food pantry.

d. Opportunity to participate in household hazardous waste day through KVCOG - Saturday, October 17

Minutes:

Motion by Edwin Bailey and second by Natasha Littlefield to decline the invitation to participate in the HHWD through KVCOG.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

e. Doris L. Young Scholarship review and award

Minutes:

Motion by Thomas Rumpf and second by Edwin Bailey to award \$1,500 per student for a total of \$33,000 to the qualified Doris L. Young scholarship applicants.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

f. Community Forest access road repairs

Minutes:

Brent Chesley offered to make a site visit to the road with Edwin Bailey. They will report back at the next meeting.

g. Increase fee for commercial haulers at transfer station

Minutes:

Motion by Thomas Rumpf and second by Edwin Bailey to increase the fee for commercial MSW hauler from .03 to .05. Also, in discussion, the Board would like to revisit this in October to increase for January 1st. Potential increase could be .07 or more.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

h. Appointment - TIF Committee

Minutes:

Motion by Edwin Bailey and second by Thomas Rumpf to appoint Christine Gee to the TIF Committee. Joann Austin will be considered at the next meeting as the Board did not have a copy of Austin's volunteer application.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

i. Abatement by Municipal Officers

Minutes:

Motion by Edwin Bailey and second by Thomas Rumpf to abate \$31.59 in principal plus interest and lien fees for Faye Cuzner - Act 2836 for the 2024

taxes.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

j. Appointment of Town Clerk

Minutes:

Motion by Edwin Bailey and second by Thomas Rumpf to appoint Rebecca Hapgood as Town Clerk.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

k. Appointment of Registrar or Voters

Minutes:

Motion by Edwin Bailey and second by Thomas Rumpf to appoint Rebecca Hapgood as Registrar of Voters.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

l. Appointment of ballot clerks

Minutes:

Motion by Thomas Rumpf and second by Edwin Bailey to appoint the following ballot clerks for the June 9, 2026 Election. Democrat - Finley, Julie, Cottle, Susan, Keaten, Steven, Moulton, Peter, Pelkey, Aileen and Robertson, Jane Republican - Bailey, Tammy, Baker, Valerie, Batteese, Rosalie, Breton, Sarah, Chamberlain, Jennifer, Laird, Sydney, Oxley, Joni and Wentworth, Martha

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

m. Appointment of warden and deputy warden

Minutes:

Motion by Brent Chesley and second by Edwin Bailey to appoint Martha Wentworth as warden for the June 9, 2026 Election and appoint Tammy Bailey and Jennifer Chamberlain as deputy wardens.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

n. Town Clerk and Registrar hours for week proceeding Election

Minutes:

Motion by Edwin Bailey and second by Natasha Littlefield to confirm the Town Clerk and Registrar hours for the week preceding the Election.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

10. Public Comment

11. Select Board Member Comments

12. Manager communication – non-action items

Minutes:

Also mentioned were the break-ins on the Neck Road and one on the Pleasant View Ridge Road. Please be aware and cautious.

- a. **RSU 18 District Budget hearing - May 21, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.**
- b. **All departments closed for Memorial Day - May 25, 2026**
- c. **Upcoming meetings - June 1, 15 & 29, 2026**
- d. **Town Clerk, Angela Nelson, has resigned. We are advertising for a replacement.**
- e. **Did you know that the clear plastic milk jugs, windshield wash jugs, dish liquid soap containers and other "clear" containers when recycled earns the town \$1,700/ton.**

13. Adjourn

Minutes:

Motion by Edwin Bailey and second by Natasha Littlefield at 7:22 p.m. to adjourn.

Vote results:

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0 / Abstains: 0

Signature

Thomas Rumpf, Secretary