OFFICIAL BALLOT
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF CHATHAM
ANNUAL ELECTION
JUNE 25, 2020

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS
A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this: ☐.
B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate’s name and address on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

SHAREEN DAVIS
Three Year Term
Vote for not more than ONE
Candidate for Re-Election

NANCY L. SCOTT
Three Year Term
Vote for not more than ONE
Candidate for Re-Election

ROBERT BLAKE HESSLER
Three Year Term
Vote for not more than ONE
Candidate for Re-Election

FUNCTIONAL AREA

MONOMOY REGIONAL
SCHOOL COMMITTEE

JACQUELINE MACY ZIBRATLONG
Three Year Term(s)
Vote for not more than TWO
Candidate for Re-Election

ELIZABETH H. TAYLOR
Three Year Term
Vote for not more than ONE
Candidate for Re-Election

HOUSING AUTHORITY

JANICE M. O'CONNELL
Five Year Term
Vote for not more than ONE
Candidate for Re-Election

FUNCTIONAL AREA

QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1 - Debt Exclusion
Transfer Station Improvements

Shall the Town of Chatham be allowed to exempt from the limitations of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued for the purpose of paying costs of related to designing, engineering, permitting, construction and necessary modifications relating to site improvements to the Transfer Station facility located at 97 Sam Ryder Road to bring the facility into compliance with American Disability Act (ADA), Architectural Access Board (AAB) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards and all other costs incidental and related thereto?

YES ☐ NO ☐

QUESTION 2 – Non-Binding Public Advisory Question
For Increased Security At The Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station On Cape Cod Bay In Order To Protect The Public And The Environment

Whereas, the high level nuclear waste will remain at Pilgrim for decades or more in dry casks that present safety concerns, each holding half the radioactive cesium released at Chernobyl;

Whereas, the spent fuel pool remains full and is vulnerable to terrorist attack or accident that could cause radioactive contamination rendering our communities uninhabitable;

Whereas, due to lack of proper security on the property, there has been open access beyond the posted “No Trespassing” signs to within line-of-sight of dry casks and spent fuel pool;

Whereas, during decommissioning, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has abdicated its responsibility to protect the public by approving exemptions requested by new Pilgrim owner Holtec for reduced offsite liability insurance, cybersecurity, and offsite emergency planning;

Whereas, safety is a human right;

Whereas, citizens of the Town of Chatham find this to be an unacceptable threat to our health and safety and must be resolved in the most timely manner;

Therefore, shall the people of the Town of Chatham direct the local government to communicate to Governor Baker and the State Legislature to employ all means available to ensure that: (1) spent nuclear fuel is secured in better quality dry casks and hardened onsite, storage, and (2) spent fuel pool and casks are protected with heightened security to prevent intrusion in order to protect the health, welfare, and economic interests of the Town of Chatham and its inhabitants and visitors?

YES ☐ NO ☐
Acts (2020)

Chapter 45

AN ACT GRANTING AUTHORITY TO POSTPONE 2020 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN THE COMMONWEALTH AND INCREASE VOTING OPTIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY TO RESPOND TO COVID-19.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to forthwith provide for the rescheduling of elections as a result of the governor’s declaration of emergency to respond to COVID-19 and to increase voting options, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. (a) Notwithstanding section 9 of chapter 39, sections 26 and 28 of chapter 51 and chapters 53 and 54 of the General Laws or any other general or special law or by-law to the contrary, a city or town with a municipal caucus or annual or special municipal election scheduled between the effective date of this act and May 30, 2020, may postpone such municipal caucus or municipal election in accordance with this act.

The select board, town council, board of registrars or city council of the city or town may vote on any day prior to the date of their scheduled municipal caucus or municipal election to postpone the municipal caucus or municipal election to a date certain on or before June 30, 2020. Such rescheduled caucus or election shall be held in accordance with all applicable election laws except as otherwise provided in this act.

(b) The select board, town council or city council of a city or town postponing a municipal caucus or municipal election pursuant to this act shall, following consultation with the local election official and the chief operating officer of the municipality as to logistics and feasibility, vote to reschedule the municipal caucus or municipal election. A copy of this act, the vote of the select board, town council or city council and a sample ballot shall be placed on the official municipal website not later than 20 days before the date to which the rescheduled caucus or election has been postponed. Notice of such action shall be provided to the public in other ways reasonably calculated to enable eligible voters to learn of the rescheduled election date and to cast ballots therein. The notice may include, but shall not be limited to, a “reverse-911” call, municipal list-serve notifications, advertisement on local cable television or issuance of a press release sent to local news media.
(c) Consistent with section 107 of chapter 41 of the General Laws, an incumbent elected official whose term would have expired at a municipal annual town election if the election was not postponed pursuant to this act shall continue to serve in the official’s position until a successor is elected and qualified.

(d) If this act does not take effect until after the date of a scheduled municipal caucus or municipal election during the state of emergency declared by the governor pursuant to executive order 591, declaration of a state of emergency to respond to COVID-19, the actions of the board of selectmen, town council, city council and local election officials to postpone a municipal caucus or municipal election shall be ratified, validated and confirmed as if this act had been in place prior thereto.

SECTION 2. The last day to register to vote for any annual or special municipal or state election postponed pursuant to this act or otherwise postponed in response to COVID-19 shall be 10 days before the date to which the rescheduled election has been postponed; provided, however, that the board of registrars shall hold a registration session on that date not less than from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM and from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM. The voting list to be used at such rescheduled election shall include all eligible voters registered as of that date.

SECTION 3. The caucus or election materials, including, but not limited to, absentee and official ballots, prepared for a municipal caucus or any annual or special municipal or state election postponed pursuant to this act or otherwise postponed in response to COVID-19 and bearing that date shall be used for the rescheduled caucus or election to the extent practicable. If additional ballots are required to be printed, the ballots shall be identical in form to those prepared for the original caucus or election.

SECTION 4. Absentee ballots cast in connection with the original election date for any annual or special municipal or state election postponed pursuant to this act or otherwise postponed in response to COVID-19, whether returned before the original election or otherwise, and received by the local election official before the close of polls on the date of the rescheduled election, shall be processed in accordance with applicable law; provided, however, that any voter who chooses to vote in person on the date of the rescheduled election may do so if their absentee ballot has not yet been counted. Completed applications to vote by absentee ballot in the rescheduled election shall be accepted by the board of registrars until 12:00 noon on the last business day before the rescheduled election.

For an election held on or before June 30, 2020 any person taking precaution related to COVID-19 in response to a declared state of emergency or from guidance from a medical professional, local or state health official, or any civil authority shall be deemed to be unable by reason of physical disability to cast their vote in person at a polling location.

SECTION 5. (a) Notwithstanding section 25B of chapter 54 of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, any eligible voter may vote early by mail for any annual or special municipal or state election held on or before June 30, 2020.

(b) Any qualified voter wanting to early vote by mail may file with their local election official an application for an early voting ballot. Any form of written communication evidencing a desire to have an early voting ballot be sent for use for voting at an election shall be given the same effect as an application made in the form prescribed by the state secretary. Local election officials shall send early voting by mail
ballots to those who have applied as soon as ballots are available. No application shall be deemed to be seasonably filed unless it is received in the office of the local election official before noon on the last business day before the date on which the rescheduled election is held.

(c) Local election officials may substitute absentee ballots for early voting ballots for those voters requesting to vote early by mail in municipal elections. An early voting ballot or absentee ballot substituted for an early voting ballot, along with an envelope bearing an affidavit as set forth in section 25B of chapter 54 of the General Laws, shall be provided to each qualified voter who participates in early voting by mail.

(d) The local election officials shall cause to be placed on the voting lists opposite the name of a qualified voter who participates in early voting the letters “EV” designating an early voter.

(e) The counting of early voting ballots shall be consistent with section 25B of chapter 54 of the General Laws and implemented regulations to the extent practicable. All envelopes referred to in this section shall be retained with the ballots cast at the election and shall be preserved and destroyed in the manner provided by law for the retention, preservation or destruction of official ballots.

(f) All early voting ballots voted by mail shall be received by the town clerk before the hour fixed for closing the polls on the date on which the rescheduled election is held. Early voting ballots cast under the authority of this section shall be processed at the polls in a manner consistent with that set forth in said section 25B of said chapter 54.

Minutes  
Chatham Board of Selectmen  
April 27, 2020  6:00 PM  
Remote Participation ONLY

For an audio/video recording of this meeting visit http://www.chatham-ma.gov/channel-18

Remotely Participating for the Board of Selectmen: Shareen Davis, Chairman; Peter Cocolis, Vice Chairman; Dean Nicastro, Clerk; Cory Metters; Jeffrey Dykens. Also participating remotely: Jill Goldsmith, Town Manager; Dr. Robert Duncanson, Director of Natural Resources; Alix Heilala, Finance Director; Mandi Snowman, Director of the Council on Aging; Julie Smith, Town Clerk; Dan Tobin, Director of Parks & Recreation; Tom Temple, Director of Public Works; Terry Whalen, Principal Projects and Operations Administrator; Katie Donovan, Director of Community Development Public Participants Stephen Buckley, West Chatham; Elaine Gibbs, Chatham; Frank Messina, South Chatham; Suzanna Nickerson, Chatham; Fred Crimmins, Chatham.

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_OT1zODE4MDEtM2I2ZS00YmQ1LWE5Y2MtMGU5MWI0YmU1NWEx%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%224f417a68-a412-4139-a47c-97515be2b99f%22%22Oid%22%3a%2255d15d79-2d80-4356-b726-89be5f7bf91b%22%7d

CALL IN NUMBER: 1-508-945-4410  
CONFERENCE ID: 779 161 112#

Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor’s March 23, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Chatham Board of Selectmen is being conducted via remote participation. Every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order. A reminder that persons who would like to listen to this meeting while in progress may do so by calling the phone number 1 (508) 945-4410, Conference ID: 779 161 112# or join the meeting online via Microsoft Teams through the link in the posted agenda.

Despite our best efforts, we may not able to provide for real-time access, and we will post a record of this meeting on the Town’s website as soon as possible.

Chairman Davis conducted a roll call of the Selectmen to achieve a quorum and open the Board of Selectmen’s meeting.

Roll Call of Board of Selectmen:  
Jeffrey Dykens: Present  
Cory Metters: Present  
Dean Nicastro: Present  
Peter Cocolis: Present  
Shareen Davis: Present

I. Minutes
Special Town Meeting on a date certain in the fall. There was general agreement that the Transfer Station improvements to comply with ADA and OSHA regulations were required and should remain on the ballot and warrant. There was general agreement that the dredging and childcare voucher articles should remain on the warrant. There was some agreement that the stormwater ballot question and warrant article could be delayed until fall given the new deadline for SRF funding.

c. Annual Town Election of June 25, 2020 – Set Polling Hours for 12:00PM to 6:00PM

It was suggested the polls only be open for the minimum four hours to reduce exposure time as much as possible for the poll workers. The question was raised if the hours could be broken up into two two- or three-hour sets.

Town Clerk Julie Smith said she was unsure of the number of volunteers she will have willing to work the polls. She said the polls must be open continuously until they are closed. She said she believed most people would opt for early mail-in voting or absentee voting rather than physically come to the polls.

Motion: by Dean Nicastro to set the polling hours for the Annual Town Election on June 25, 2020 for noon to 4 p.m.
Second: by Peter Cocolis

It was noted that this would not accommodate people who work traditional hours until 5 p.m. and may work out of town.

The motion was withdrawn.

Polling hours of 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. were suggested. Town Clerk Smith confirmed that the polls must open no later than noon.

The below motion was offered.

Elaine Gibbs, Chatham, questioned if the Annual Town Election had to be held in June. Town Manager Goldsmith said at this time there had been no additional legislative relief and Annual Town Election had to be held before June 30, 2020. She said the local elected officials had to be on the ballot but the inclusion of questions, other than the petitioned question, were at the Board’s discretion. Ms. Gibbs said many Chatham voters are stuck in other parts of the country and will not know how to request mail-in or absentee ballots and suggested the Annual Town Election be delayed until the fall. Chairman Davis noted that legislation dictates that the Town hold the election before June 30, 2020 and the Board has voted to hold it on June 25, 2020.

Motion: by Dean Nicastro to set the polling hours for Annual Town Election on June 25, 2020 for noon to 6 p.m.
Second: by Peter Cocolis.

Roll Call Vote:
Jeffrey Dykens: Yes
Cory Metters: Yes
Dean Nicastro: Yes
Peter Cocolis: Yes
Shareen Davis: Yes

Town Clerk Julie Smith said the information on how to request an early voting mail-in ballot or an absentee ballot are already on the Town Clerk’s webpage. She said the Town would get the word out in as many ways as possible. She said it typically takes a few weeks to get the ballot prepared but there may be delays in printing due to the pandemic. She said she has to have the ballots no less than three weeks before the election.

The below motion was offered.

It was suggested that educational outreach should be done to ensure that voters know the Transfer Station improvements are greatly reduced from what was originally proposed. Dr. Robert Duncanson reminded that Board that while SRF funding could be delayed, a portion of the stormwater project addressed drainage on Crowell Road.

Motion: by Dean Nicastro to remove the debt exclusion question for a COA at 1610 Main Street and the debt exclusion question for stormwater from the ballot and retain the debt exclusion question for (interim) Transfer Station improvements and the petitioned question on the 2020 Annual Town Election ballot.
Second: by Jeffrey Dykens.

Roll Call Vote:
Jeffrey Dykens: Yes
Cory Metters: Yes
Dean Nicastro: Yes
Peter Cocolis: Yes
Shareen Davis: Yes

b. 2020 Annual Town Meeting Warrant
   ii. Discuss Articles/BOS Votes/Order Warrant/Close Warrant

The Board reviewed the articles that had previously been placed on the warrant and identified those to be removed.

The below motion was made.

The desire to hear from the petitioners of the Stepping Stones Road article as to their intentions to move or not move the article was expressed. It was