

**TOWN MEETING WARRANT**  
**Tuesday, June 28, 2022**

To Michelle Ames, a resident of the Town of South Thomaston, in the County of Knox, State of Maine,

**GREETINGS:**

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of South Thomaston in the County of Knox and State of Maine, qualified to vote by law in Town affairs, to meet at the Ash Point Community School, 54 Ash Point Drive, Owls Head, Maine, on Tuesday, the 28<sup>th</sup> day of June 2022 A.D., at seven o'clock in the evening, then and there, to act upon the following articles to wit:

**Article 1.** To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

**Article 2.** To elect by written ballot one Selectboard member, one Assessor and one Overseer-of-the-Poor for a term until Town Meeting 2025.

**Article 3.** To elect by written ballot one member for the Board of Directors of the Regional School Unit #13 for a term until Town Meeting 2025.

**Article 4.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize payment to the Selectboard members and Assessors quarterly.

**Article 5.** To see if the Town will approve and authorize the Selectboard to execute an amendment to the September, 2006 Lease by and between the Inhabitants of the Town of South Thomaston and Wessaweskeag Historical Society to add the town owned Arlene Hopkins Memorial Building, also known as the "Little Red Schoolhouse" to the lease. A copy of the amended lease is posted with this warrant and will be available at the Town Office, on the Town Website and at the Town Meeting.

**Article 6.** To see if the Town shall vote to amend the current Inter Local Agreement between the Towns of Owls Head, South Thomaston and Thomaston establishing a Cooperative Solid Waste Transfer Facility.

Part 4.3 Financial Procedures currently reads:

(a) Budget. During the first year of activities hereunder, the Joint Board shall prepare a budget, determine recommended shares of costs and transmit the same to the member municipalities on or prior to May 1; thereafter, the budget and cost allocations shall be transmitted on or prior to January 1 of each year. This shall be the assessment for debt service and operating expenses for each member municipality.

(b) Fiscal Year. The fiscal year shall be from Jan 1 to Dec 31st.

(c) Audit. The Board shall engage a qualified public accountant to

conduct an annual audit of the corporation's accounts. The audit shall be conducted on the basis of auditing standards and procedures prescribed by the State Auditor for municipalities.

Part 4.3 Financial Procedures: Shall be amended to read:

(a) The Joint Board shall prepare a budget, determine costs to be shared and transmit to the member municipalities on or prior to May 1, 2022. Thereafter, the budget and cost allocations shall be transmitted to the member municipalities on or prior to March 1 of each year. This shall be the assessment for debt service and operating expenses for each member municipality.

(b) The Fiscal Year shall be from July 1 to June 30 each year effective July 1, 2022

(c) is unchanged

**Article 7:** To see if the Town will vote (1) to authorize the Selectboard to form a nonprofit corporation to be called the Library and Community Center Auxiliary, which shall have the purposes and operate by the procedures set forth in the proposed Bylaws attached to this Warrant; and (2) to hold and appropriate all funds raised by said corporation and paid over to the Town, in the Selectboard's discretion, to be maintained and/or expended for the planning and construction of a library and community center at the site of the former Gilford Butler School.

**Article 8:** Shall an Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance Regulating the Storage of Solid Waste and Junk" be enacted? A copy of the proposed ordinance is posted with this warrant and will be available at the Town Office, on the Town Website and at the Town Meeting.

**Article 9:** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to: expend up to eight hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$850,000) to purchase or lease purchase a new tanker fire engine and a new or used utility fire truck;

Fund the expenditure substantially in accordance with the method list below;

Issue bond(s) or note(s) and/or execute a lease purchase agreement(s) in an aggregate amount of debt principal not to exceed \$438,683 for a term not exceeding seven (7) years;

Reduce the amount of the aggregate amount of debt issued, and/or contemplated to be issued, by any amounts of grants, donations or other funds that may be obtained for this purpose; and to;

Negotiate other such terms and conditions as it deemed advisable and necessary to complete the purchase and funding.

Fire Truck Reserve Fund: \$350,482

FY 24 Appropriation: \$60,835

Bond, Note and/or Lease Purchase Proceeds \$438,683

**Article 10.** *This article is strictly advisory and is not binding on the Selectboard.* To see if the Town desires that the Selectboard include an article on the warrant of the 2023 annual town

meeting to determine if the town wishes to adopt the provisions of Title 30-A MRSA Section 2528. Adoption of Section 2528 would henceforth, until if and when repealed:

1. Require that all elected officials, excluding the Moderator, be elected by a referendum secret ballot vote at the polls, and
2. Enable the Selectboard, and petitioners, to submit certain articles or questions, at their discretion, to a referendum secret ballot vote at the polls.

Currently the only elected South Thomaston officials, other than the Moderator, is the town's member of the RSU 13 Board of Directors and the members of the Selectboard, who also serve as the Board of Assessors and the Overseers of the Poor.

**Article 11.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$7,500 from the Town Landing Reserve Account to help support the Maine Lobstermen's Association's Legal Defense Fund to Save Maine Lobstermen.

Selectboard/Budget Committee have no recommendation

**Article 12.** To see what sums of money the Town will vote to raise or appropriate for General Government and how the same shall be raised. (see lines 13-20 of proposed 2022-23 budget)

**Administration (line 14)**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:

By Appropriation	151,022
Anticipated Revenue	52,564
From Excise	60,149
Surplus	<u>15,000</u>
Total:	<b>\$278,735</b>

**Assessors (line 15)**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:

By Appropriation	49,975
From Surplus	<u>500</u>
Total:	<b>\$50,475</b>

**Planning Board-Board of Appeals (line 16)**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:

By Appropriation	2,145
From Surplus	<u>600</u>
Total:	<b>\$2,745</b>

**Conservation Commission (line 17)**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:

By Appropriation	<u>500</u>
Total:	<b>\$500</b>

**Buildings & Grounds (line 18)**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
By Appropriation	33,411
From Excise	26,000
From Surplus	<u>31,400</u>
Total:	<b>\$90,811</b>

**Town Landing (line 19)**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
From Excise	<u>3,615</u>
Total:	<b>\$3,615</b>

**Code Enforcement & Plumbing Inspector (line 20)**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
By Appropriation	20,900
Anticipated Revenue	9,500
From Surplus	<u>700</u>
Total:	<b>\$31,100</b>

**Article 13.** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise or appropriate for Public Safety and how same shall be raised. (see lines 21-25 of proposed 22-23 budget)

**Fire Department (line 22)**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends	
By Appropriation	114,664
Anticipated Revenue	230
From Surplus	<u>14,000</u>
Total:	<b>\$128,894</b>

**Ambulance Service (line 23)**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
By Appropriation	161,813
Anticipated Revenue	106,000
From Surplus	<u>10,000</u>
Total:	<b>\$277,813</b>

**General Public Safety (line 24)**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
By Appropriation	62,297
Anticipated Revenue	300
From Surplus	<u>5,000</u>
Total:	<b>\$67,597</b>

**Streetlights (line 25)**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
By Appropriation	<u>3,925</u>
Total:	<b>\$3,925</b>

**Article 14.** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise or appropriate for Public Works and how same shall be raised. (see line 27 of proposed 22-23 budget)

**Public Works**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
By Appropriation	0
Anticipated Revenue	36,943
From Excise	293,851
From Surplus	<u>26,000</u>
Total:	<b>\$356,795</b>

**Article 15.** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise or appropriate for Health & Sanitation and how same shall be raised. (see line 28 of proposed 22-23 budget)

**Health & Sanitation**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
By Appropriation	264,211
Anticipated Revenue	7,500
From Surplus	<u>12,500</u>
Total:	<b>\$284,211</b>

**Article 16.** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise or appropriate for General Assistance and how the same shall be raised. (see line 29 of proposed 22-23 budget)

**General Assistance**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
Anticipated Revenue	1,125
From Surplus	<u>375</u>
Total:	<b>\$1,500</b>

**Article 17.** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise or appropriate for Culture & Recreation and how the same shall be raised. (see lines 30-32 of proposed 22-23 budget)

**Library (line 31)**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
By Appropriation	2,513
From Surplus	<u>2,000</u>
Total:	<b>\$4,513</b>

**Recreation (line 32)**

Selectboard Recommends	
By Appropriation	1,020
From Surplus	<u>6,000</u>
Total:	<b>\$7,020</b>
Budget Committee Recommends	
By Appropriation	1,020
From Surplus	<u>1,000</u>
Total:	<b>\$2,020</b>

**Article 18.** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise or appropriate for Debt Services and how the same shall be raised. (see line 34 of proposed 22-23 budget)

**Debt Services**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
By Appropriation	<u>68,296</u>
Total:	<b>\$68,296</b>

**Article 19.** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise or appropriate for Reserve Funds and how the same shall be raised. (see line 35 of proposed 22-23 budget)

**Revaluation Reserve Fund**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
From Surplus	<u>10,000</u>
Total:	<b>\$10,000</b>

**Fire Truck Reserve Fund**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
By Appropriation	<u>60,835</u>
Total:	<b>\$60,835</b>

**Fire Equipment Reserve Fund**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
From Surplus	<u>10,000</u>
Total:	<b>\$10,000</b>

**Fire Pond Maintenance Reserve**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
From Surplus	<u>5,500</u>
	<b>\$ 5,500</b>

**Ambulance Defibrillator Reserve Fund:**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
By Appropriation	995
From Surplus	<u>4,005</u>
Total:	<b>\$5,000</b>

**Town Landing Reserve Fund:**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
From Boat Excise	<u>3,385</u>
Total:	<b>\$3,385</b>

**Paving Reserve Fund:**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:	
From Excise	<u>0</u>
Total:	<b>\$0</b>

**Cemetery Reserve Fund:**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:  
By Appropriation 1,000  
Total: **\$1,000**

**Emergency Disaster Reserve Fund:**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:  
From Surplus 10,000  
Total: **\$10,000**

**Recreation Reserve**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends: 5,000  
By Appropriation **\$ 5,000**

**Article 20.** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise or appropriate for Cemetery-GRSF-Veterans and how the same shall be raised. (see line 36 of proposed 22-23 budget)

**Cemetery-GRSF-Veterans**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:  
By Appropriation 17,108  
Anticipated Revenue 759  
From Surplus 13,927  
Total: **\$31,794**

**Article 21.** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise or appropriate for Capital Expense and how the same shall be raised. (see line 37 of proposed 22-23 budget)

**Capital Expense**

Selectboard/ Budget Committee Recommends:  
From Surplus 15,743  
Total: **\$15,743**

**Article 22.** To see if the Town will vote to exceed the property tax levy limit of \$680,304, established for the Town of South Thomaston by State law, in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the current property tax levy limit.

**Article 23.** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard, on behalf of the town, to: solicit donations and grants, whether public and private; accept or reject any donations or grants that may be offered or awarded, including donations or grants that impose conditions or other restrictions; expend funds from any accepted donations or grants in accordance with any conditions or other restrictions that the donor or grantor may impose and; execute any documents that the donor or grantor may require.

**Article 24.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to appoint all town officials as necessary or required by law.

**Article 25.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard on behalf of the Town to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for nonpayment of taxes thereon, under such terms as it may deem advisable, and to execute quit claim deeds for such property.

**Article 26.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to accept or dispose of all equipment.

**Article 27.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to transfer funds from unexpended balances and surplus as it deems necessary.

**Article 28.** To see if the town will vote to charge interest on all delinquent taxes at the rate of 4 % per annum, computed on a daily basis and to establish two due dates for property taxes, with one-half of the tax amount due October 3, 2022, and one-half of the tax amount due April 3, 2023.

**Article 29.** To see if the Town will vote to set the interest rate to be paid by the Town on abated taxes at a rate of 4% and to authorize such interest paid or abatements granted to be appropriated from the overlay funds, or if necessary, from unassigned fund balance.

The Registrar will be in session at 6:30 o'clock in the evening of June 28, 2022, at Ash Point Community School 54 Ash Point Drive, Owls Head, Maine for the registration of voters and correcting the voting list. A PERSON WHO IS NOT REGISTERED AS A SOUTH THOMASTON VOTER MAY NOT VOTE IN ANY ELECTION INCLUDING TOWN MEETING.

Given under our hands at South Thomaston on this 7th day of June two thousand, twenty-two.

South Thomaston Selectboard:

John Spear, Chair

  
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Jeff Northgraves

  
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Walter Reitz

  
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Attest a true copy:



Terri-Lynn Baines  
Town Clerk