

**TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM
TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

**Sagadahoc, ss
State of Maine**

To: **Kate Cutko**, a resident of the Town of Bowdoinham, in said County of Sagadahoc, 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 Bowdoinham, in said County and State, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to assemble at **Bowdoinham Community School on Saturday, June 1, 2024, at 9:00am**, then and there to act on Articles 1 through 41 as set out below.

ARTICLE 1: To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

ARTICLE 2: Shall the Town adopt a new Comprehensive Plan entitled, “Town of Bowdoinham Comprehensive Plan, April 2024, approved for June 1, 2024 Town Meeting Warrant,” which will repeal and replace the existing Comprehensive Plan, adopted by the Town on June 11, 2014?

Copies of the proposed comprehensive plan are available from the Town Clerk.

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board recommends this article to pass.

ORDINANCES

ARTICLE 3: Shall an ordinance entitled “An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance to Allow for xxx” be enacted?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

ARTICLE 4: Shall an ordinance entitled “An Ordinance to Amend the Town of Bowdoinham Land Use Ordinance to Allow for xxx” be enacted?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING

ARTICLE 5: Shall the Town vote to amend the CMP/Riverfront Municipal Development and Tax Increment Financing District and Development Program originally dated June 10, 2014, and amended June 14, 2023 pursuant to Title 30-A Chapter 206 of the Maine Revised Statutes, in accordance with the **Resolution approved by the Select Board on April 9, 2024**, a copy of which is attached and incorporated herein by reference?

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT ARTICLES

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote: (1) to approve the **purchase of a fire truck** with associated equipment for the Fire and Rescue Department including all other reasonably necessary costs related thereto (the “Project”); and (2) to appropriate up to **\$750,000** for the Project; and (3) to authorize the Treasurer and the Chair of the Select Board to issue general obligation bonds of the Town of Bowdoinham (including temporary notes in anticipation of the sale thereof) in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$750,000; and (4) to delegate to the Treasurer and the Chair of the Select Board the discretion to fix the date(s), maturity(ies), interest rate(s), denomination(s), place(s) of payment, premium(s), call(s) for redemption, current or advance refunding(s) of the securities, form(s) and other detail of said general obligation bonds, including execution and delivery of said general obligation bonds and to provide for the sale thereof as well as the negotiation and execution of any loan agreement with any party or certifications related thereto.

TREASURER’S FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Total Town Indebtedness:

A. Bonds outstanding and unpaid	\$6,162,564.35
B. Bonds authorized and unissued:	\$1,000,000.00
C. Bonds to be issued if this Article is approved:	<u>\$750,000.00</u>
Total	\$7,912,564.35

Costs:

At an estimated interest rate of 3.5% for an assumed 15-year maturity, the estimated costs of this bond issue will be:

Principal:	\$750,000.00
Interest:	\$226,782.03
Total Debt Service:	\$976,782.22

Validity: The validity of the bonds and the voters’ ratification of the bonds may not be affected by any errors in the above estimates. If the actual amount of the total debt service for the bond issue varies from the estimate, the ratification by the electors is nevertheless conclusive and the validity of the bond issue is not affected by reason of the variance.

Nicole Briand, Treasurer
Town of Bowdoinham, Maine

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$650,000, as itemized below, for the CAPITAL RESERVE Budget?

Capital Improvements:	\$7,500
Town Hall & Town Office:	\$40,000
Cemetery Maintenance:	\$15,000
Solid Waste & Recycling:	\$5,000
Public Works Reserve:	\$487,000
Fire Reserve:	\$85,000
Recreation Reserve:	\$3,000
Electronic Equipment Reserve	\$4,500
Waterfront Reserve:	\$3,000
Total	\$650,000

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

EXPENSE BUDGET ARTICLES

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$_____ for the ADMINISTRATION Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee unanimously recommends the article to pass.

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$_____ for the PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND CODE ENFORCEMENT Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$_____ for the CONTINGENCY Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$_____ for the GENERAL SERVICES Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$_____ for the DEBT SERVICES Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$_____ for the FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$_____ for the TOWN FACILITIES MAINTENANCE Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$_____ for the ANIMAL CONTROL AND HARBOR MASTER Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$_____ for the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$_____ for the SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING DEPARTMENT Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$_____ for the RECREATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES Budget?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

OUTSIDE ORGANIZATION REQUESTS

ARTICLE 19: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$_____ for SPECTRUM GENERATIONS?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

ARTICLE 20: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$_____ for The Life Flight Foundation?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

ARTICLE 21: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$_____ for Kennebec Behavioral Health?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

ARTICLE 22: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$_____ for Maine Public?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

REVENUE BUDGET ARTICLE

ARTICLE 23: Shall the Town vote appropriate the sum of \$_____ from the ESTIMATED REVENUES ACCOUNTS (Non-Property Tax Revenues) to be applied to reduce the 2025 tax commitment?

RECOMMENDATION: Select Board and Finance Advisory Committee

BUSINESS ARTICLES

ARTICLE 24: Shall the Town vote to fix the first day of November 2024 and the first day of May 2025 when all 2025 real estate and personal property taxes shall be due and payable in semi-annual installments and to instruct the Tax Collector to charge interest at **8.50%** per annum on all taxes unpaid after said date(s)?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

ARTICLE 25: Shall the Town vote to establish the interest rate of **4.50%** per year on the amount of overpayment to be paid to a taxpayer who is determined to have paid an amount of real estate or personal property taxes in excess of amount finally assessed pursuant to 36 M.R.S. §506-A?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

ARTICLE 26: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept tax payments prior to the commitment of taxes?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

ARTICLE 27: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Tax Collector to offer a 2025 Tax Club Plan to taxpayers who enroll no later than July 31, 2024, who pay the total amount of 2025 taxes by monthly payments from September 2024 to June 30, 2025, who abide by the requirements of said

plan; who shall receive from the Town, in return for such payments, full credit for such taxes paid without incurring any charge of interest?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

ARTICLE 28: Shall the Town vote to authorize the payment of any overdrafts that may occur in the Town's 2024/2025 budget to be paid out of the undesignated fund balance?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

ARTICLE 29: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to appropriate funds from various reserve funds, as they deem necessary, in a manner that is consistent with the purposes for which said funds were established?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

ARTICLE 30: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to transfer unexpended funds remaining in department expense accounts, which are appropriated by the town meeting in FY24-25 but which are not expended in FY24-25, in to related reserve accounts?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

ARTICLE 31: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board and Treasurer to accept on behalf of the Town, monetary gifts, and donated equipment and vehicles, and to appropriate said gifts to supplement the accounts and departments as specified by the benefactor?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends.

ARTICLE 32: Shall the Town vote to authorize the following actions on behalf of the town: (1) to authorize the Select Board to rent, lease, sell, or otherwise dispose of any real estate acquired by the town for non-payment of taxes thereon on such terms as they deem advisable and execute Municipal Quit Claim deeds for same; (2) to authorize the Select Board to keep any real estate acquired for non-payment of taxes or portion thereof for the use of the town when they deem it to be in the town's best interests; and (3) to authorize the Select Board to rent or lease town-owned real estate that was not acquired for non-payment of taxes when they deem it to be in the town's best interest and on such terms as they deem advisable?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

ARTICLE 33: Shall the Town vote to authorize the municipal Treasurer to waive the foreclosure of a tax lien mortgage by recording a Waiver of Foreclosure at the Registry of Deeds in which the Tax Lien Certificate is recorded, prior to the right of redemption expiring, pursuant to 36 M.R.S. § 944?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

ARTICLE 34: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board and Treasurer, on behalf of the Town to sell or dispose of obsolete Town equipment, material, and commodities on such terms as

they deem proper and place money from said sales into related reserve account, if the Board deems appropriate?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

ARTICLE 35: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Treasurer to accept any donations, gifts or grants of money for the Heating Assistance Program reserve account and to expend available funds from the account for the designated purpose?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

ARTICLE 36: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board and Treasurer to enter into multi-year contracts necessary to provide services to the Town?

Explanation: Services for the town include but are not limited to ambulance service, banking, road maintenance, snow removal, curbside recycling and trash disposal.

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

ARTICLE 37: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board and Treasurer to accept and expend Community Development Block Grant Funds and other federal, state or private grants on behalf of the Town?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

ARTICLE 38: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to periodically set fees for returned checks, copies of Town ordinances and other documents, and notary services?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

ARTICLE 39: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to collect Solid Waste Management User Fees for Fiscal Year 2024 at the rate of \$3.00 per bag?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

ARTICLE 40: Shall the Town vote to set the annual permit fee of \$100.00 per year, per truck for commercial haulers operating within the Town of Bowdoinham, pursuant to the provisions of 7.1.1 of the Solid Waste Management Ordinance?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends.

ARTICLE 41: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to close any road or roads or portions thereof for winter maintenance and to annul, alter, or modify such decisions, pursuant to 23 M.R.S. §2953, and that such orders made by the Select Board shall be a final determination?

RECOMMENDATION: The Select Board recommends

Given unto our hands the 23rd day of April 2024.

Select Board
Town of Bowdoinham

Joanne Joy, Chair

Peter Feeney

Debra Smith, Vice-Chair

Allen Acker

Mark Favreau

Witness to All:

Nicole Briand, Town Manager