

Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Hancock, s.s.
To Katie Parsons, a resident of the Town of Tremont

State of Maine

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to warn and notify the inhabitants of the Town of Tremont, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to assemble at the Tremont Town Office, in the Harvey Kelley Meeting Room in said Town, on Monday, May 12, 2025 at eight o'clock in the morning, and then and there to act on Article A by Secret Ballot and immediately thereafter the voters shall act on Article's B until eight o'clock in the evening.

And to notify and warn said voters to reconvene at the Tremont Town Office, in the Harvey Kelley Meeting Room on Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at six thirty o'clock in the evening then and there to act on Articles 1 through 50, all of said Articles being set forth below, to wit:

Town Election

The following articles will be voted by secret ballot
Monday, May 12, 2025
at the Tremont Town Office in the Harvey Kelley Meeting Room.
Polls Open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Article A

Moderator: To elect by written Secret Ballot a Moderator to preside at said meeting. (NOTE: The Moderator is nominated from the floor. At least three (3) registered voters must cast a written Secret Ballot to elect a Moderator.)

Article B

Town Officers and Officials: To elect the following Town Officers and Officials by written Secret Ballot in accordance with the provisions of Title 30-A, M.R.S. Section 2528:

- One (1) Select Board Members for a three (3) year term.
- One (1) School Board Members for a three (3) year term.
- One (1) MDI School Board Trustee for a three (3) year term.

Open Town Meeting

The following articles will be voted on the Town Meeting floor
Tuesday, May 13, 2025 starting at 6:30 p.m.
at the Tremont Town Office in the Harvey Kelley Meeting Room.

School Budget

Note: Articles 1 through 11 authorize expenditures in cost center categories

Article 1 To see what sum the School Committee is authorized to expend for **Regular Instruction** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

School Committee recommends **\$2,013,204**

Note: 2024-25 Amount was \$1,861,516

Article 2 To see what sum the School Committee is authorized to expend for **Special Education** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

School Committee recommends **\$ 1,511,603**

Note: 2024-25 Amount was \$ 1,194,430

Article 3 To see what sum the School Committee is authorized to expend for **Career and Technical Education** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

School Committee recommends **\$ -0-**

Note: 2024-25 Amount was \$ -0-

Article 4 To see what sum the School Committee is authorized to expend for **Other Instruction** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

School Committee recommends **\$ 133,090**

Note: 2024-25 Amount was \$ 124,899

Article 5 To see what sum the School Committee is authorized to expend for **Student & Staff Support** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

School Committee recommends **\$ 610,294**

Note: 2024-25 Amount was \$ 563,752

Article 6 To see what sum the School Committee is authorized to expend for **System Administration** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

School Committee recommends **\$ 123,058**

Note: 2024-25 Amount was \$ 100,360

Article 7 To see what sum the School Committee is authorized to expend for **School Administration** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

School Committee recommends **\$274,723**

Note: 2024-25 Amount was \$ 256,407

Article 8 To see what sum the School Committee is authorized to expend for **Transportation & Buses** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

School Committee recommends **\$ 199,878**

Note: 2024-25 Amount was \$ 198,486

Article 9 To see what sum the School Committee is authorized to expend for **Facilities Maintenance** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

School Committee recommends **\$ 423,958**

Note: 2024-25 Amount was \$ 434,451

Article 10 To see what sum the School Committee is authorized to expend for **Debt Service and Other Commitments** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

School Committee recommends **\$ -0-**

Note: 2023-24 Amount was \$ -0-

Article 11 To see what sum the School Committee is authorized to expend for **All Other Expenditures** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

School Committee recommends **\$ 70,000**

Note: 2024-25 Amount was \$ 70,000

Note: Articles 1 – 11 authorize a total budget of \$ 5,359,808

Note: 2024-25 Amount was \$ 4,804,301

Note: Articles 12 – 14 raise funds for the Proposed School Budget

Hand Count

Article 12 To see what sum the voters of the Town of Tremont will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from Kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act (**Recommend \$2,347,999**) and to see what sum the voters of the Town of Tremont will raise as the Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688 for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

School Committee recommends **\$1,907,591**

Explanation: The Town of Tremont's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that a municipality must raise in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.

Hand Count

Article 13 To see what sum the voters of the Town of Tremont will raise and appropriate for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the legislative body for non-state-funded school construction projects, non-state funded portions of school construction projects and minor capital projects in addition to the funds appropriated as the local share of the Town of Tremont's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026.

School Committee recommends **\$ -0-**

Explanation: Non-state-funded debt service is the amount of money needed for the annual payments on the Town of Tremont's long-term debt for major capital school construction projects and minor capital renovation projects that are not approved for state subsidy.

Written Ballot Vote Required

Article 14 To see what sum the voters of the Town of Tremont will raise and appropriate in additional local funds for school purposes (**Recommend: \$2,680,229**) for the period July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by (**Recommend: \$2,680,229**) as required to fund the budget recommended by the school committee.

The School Committee recommends **\$ 2,680,229** for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by **\$2,680,229**: The State funding model underestimates the actual costs to fully fund the 2025-2026 budget.

Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the Town of Tremont's local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the Town of Tremont's budget for educational programs.

Note: Articles 12, 13, & 14 raise a total town appropriation of **\$ 4,587,820**

Note: 2024-25 Total Town Appropriation was **\$4,166,727**

Note: Article 15 summarizes the proposed school budget and does not authorize any additional expenditures

Hand Count

Article 15 To see what sum the voters of the Town of Tremont will authorize the School Committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026 from the Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools.

School Committee recommends **\$5,359,808**

Note: 2024-25 Total Budget was \$4,804,301

Article 16 In addition to the amount in Articles 1 – 15, shall the Town appropriate and authorize the School Committee to expend additional state, federal and other funds received during the fiscal year 2025-2026 for school purposes.

School Committee recommends passage.

Note: Current Year Totals: \$ 199,720

Municipal Budget

Article 17 **Administration:** To see what sum of money, not to exceed \$974,178, the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Administration purposes.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend \$974,178

Article 18 **Protections:** To see what sum of money, not to exceed \$618,135, the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Protections purposes.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend \$618,135

Note: This amount includes Fire, EMS, and Animal Control.

Article 19 **Debt Service:** To see what sum of money, not to exceed \$0, the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Debt Service purposes.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend \$0

Article 20 **Recreation:** To see what sum of money, not to exceed \$30,000, the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Recreation purposes.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend \$30,000

Article 21 **Public Works:** To see what sum of money, not to exceed \$440,637, the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Public Works purposes.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend \$440,637

Article 22 **General Assistance:** To see what sum of money, not to exceed \$1,000, the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for General Assistance purposes.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend \$1,000

Article 23 **Committees:** To see what sum of money, not to exceed \$5,520, the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Committee purposes.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend \$5,520

Article 24 **Donations to Non-Profit Organizations:** To see what sum of money, not to exceed \$26,250, the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Donations to Non-Profit Organizations.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend \$26,250 as shown below:

MDI Campfire Coalition	\$3,000
Down East Horizons	\$2,000
Down East Community Partners	\$2,500
Tremont Historical Society	\$3,500
Mount Desert Nursing Association	\$2,000
Hospice Volunteers of Hancock County	\$1,000
Island Connections	\$1,500
Bar Harbor Food Pantry	\$2,500
Westside Food Pantry	\$2,500
WIC (Woman, Infants and Children)	\$750
Island Housing Trust	\$5,000
Total	\$26,250

Article 25 **Solid Waste:** To see what sum of money, not to exceed \$307,132, the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Solid Waste purposes.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend \$307,132

Article 26 **Contingency:** To see what sum of money, not to exceed \$16,757, the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Contingency purposes.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend \$16,757

Article 27 **Transfers To Reserves:** To see what sum of money, not to exceed \$180,832, the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Transfers to Reserves.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend \$180,832

Article 28 **Transfer To Library Fund:** To see what sum of money, not to exceed \$112,804, the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to be transferred to the Library Operating Fund.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend \$112,804

Article 29 **Other Revenues:** To see what sum the Town will vote to reduce the amount to be raised by property taxation for the Municipal Budget by using reserves, fund balance, and estimated revenues.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend \$1,188,088

Article 30 **Backside Blast Reserve:** Shall the Town create a Backside Blast Reserve and authorize expenditures by the Selectboard within their discretion to pay for event expenses in accordance with the towns Lobster Boat Race Committee bylaws?

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption

Other Municipal Articles

Article 31 **Tax Due Date and Interest Rate:** To see if the Town will vote to set the date of commitment as the date when all personal property and real estate taxes for the municipal year 2025 shall become due and payable, and that the maximum rate of interest (7.50%) that can be charged per Title 36, M.R.S. § 505(4) shall be charged on all real estate and personal property taxes remaining unpaid after sixty (60) days from that date.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption.

Article 32 **Tax Acquired Property:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard on behalf of the Town to sell or convey any real estate acquired by the Town under expired tax lien mortgages on such terms as they may deem proper and to execute release deeds on behalf of the Town to the purchasers of such property, except that the Municipal officers shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. § 943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s).

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption

Article 33 **Grants, Donations, and Other Revenues:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard, or the Town Manager acting in concurrence with said Selectboard, to apply for and/or to accept and expend, on behalf of the Town, money from Federal, State, other governmental units, or from private sources which may be received, from time to time, in the form of grants, donations, or revenues, during the period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption

Article 34 **Year End Balances:** To see if the Town will vote to have unexpended balances and overdrafts in the Town accounts at the end of the fiscal year, except those which remain by law or are deemed necessary by the Selectboard, lapsed to surplus.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption

Article 35 **Tax Prepayments:** To see if the Town will vote to accept tax payments prior to the commitment date and to pay interest on said tax payments in the amount of 0% per year figured on a monthly basis until the tax commitment date is reached, pursuant to 36 M.R.S. §506.

Explanation: On rare occasions, taxpayers need to pay their taxes before they have been billed. The Town Treasurer cannot accept such early payments unless an article is passed.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption

Article 36 **Overpayment of Taxes:** To see if the Town will vote to establish the interest rate to be paid to a taxpayer who is determined to have paid an amount of real estate taxes in excess of the amount finally assessed for 2026 at 3.75% per year on the amount of overpayment.

Explanation: If a taxpayer wins a tax appeal against the Town, we must pay them interest on the amount of the difference. We are required by law to set that amount each year. We are suggesting the lowest interest rate allowed by law, which is 3.75% less than what we charge for late payments.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption.

Article 37 **Selectboard's Pay:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer to pay Selectboard, for their time spent on behalf of the Town, for up to twenty-six (26) meetings per year at the rate of \$75.00 per meeting for the Chair and \$70.00 per meeting for the other members.

Recommendation: The Selectboard made no recommendation on this article.

Article 38 **Surplus Property:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to dispose of Town owned personal property under such terms and conditions as they deem to be in the best interest of the Town of Tremont.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption.

Article 39 **Alewife Ordinance:** To see if the Town will vote to inform the State of Maine's Department of Marine Resources that the Town of Tremont wishes to maintain the Town's rights to river herring.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption.

Article 40 **Alewife Lease:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to lease the Alewife Fishway at the outlet of Seal Cove Pond to that person, persons or corporation which in its judgment will conduct the Fishway to the best advantage of the fish as well as the Town and set terms of the lease and regulate the Fishway in behalf of the Town.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption.

Article 41 **Multi-Year Contracts:** To see if the town will vote to allow the Select Board to enter into multi-year contracts.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend passage.

Article 42 **Pacific Hall:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to make an unconditional gift to W. Morgan Churchman of the real estate located at 735 Tremont Road (Tax Map 6, Lot 5) and described in a deed from the Inhabitants of the Town of Tremont to W. Morgan Churchman dated August 25, 2020, recorded September 9, 2020 at the Hancock County, Maine, Registry of Deeds in Book 7052, Page 887, known as the Pacific Hall, building and site, by means and upon such terms and conditions as the Selectboard deems advisable, and to execute such contracts, deeds and other instruments and to take such other actions as may in the Selectboard's judgment be advisable to affect the gift of such property.

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend passage.

Article 43 **Harbor Management Ordinance:** Shall an ordinance entitled "Harbor Management Ordinance Amendment" as certified by the Select Board on February 24, 2025, be enacted?

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption.

Note: Copies of the ordinance proposed above are available from the Town Clerk.

Article 44 **Wharf and Facilities Ordinance:** Shall an ordinance entitled "Wharf and Facilities Ordinance" be amended as certified by the Select Board on February 24, 2025, be enacted?

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption.

Note: Copies of the ordinance proposed above are available from the Town Clerk.

Article 45 **Land Use Ordinance:** Shall an amendment to the Land Use Ordinance to replace specific development standards in areas of special flood hazard with references to the Tremont Floodplain Management Ordinance as certified by the Selectboard on March 17, 2025, be enacted?

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption.

Note: Copies of the ordinance proposed above are available from the Town Clerk.

Article 46 **Land Use Ordinance:** Shall an amendment to the Land Use Ordinance to amend the definitions of Residential Solar Energy Systems (RSES), Commercial Solar Energy Systems (CSES), and Industrial Solar Energy Systems (ISES) or Solar Farm as certified by the Selectboard on March 17, 2025, be enacted?

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption.

Note: Copies of the ordinance proposed above are available from the Town Clerk.

Article 47 **Land Use Ordinance:** Shall an amendment to the Land Use Ordinance to relocate the revegetation standards from Appendix A to the Performance Standards section as certified by the Selectboard on March 17, 2025, be enacted?

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption.

Note: Copies of the ordinance proposed above are available from the Town Clerk.

Article 48 **Subdivision Ordinance:** Shall an amendment to the Subdivision Ordinance to replace specific development standards in areas of special flood hazard with references to the Tremont Floodplain Management Ordinance, and add a requirement that any subdivision plan which has a portion of land within a special flood hazard area must contain a condition of approval that all development comply with the Tremont Floodplain Management Ordinance as certified by the Selectboard on March 17, 2025, be enacted?

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption.

Note: Copies of the ordinance proposed above are available from the Town Clerk.

Article 49 **Site Plan Review Ordinance:** Shall an amendment to the Site Plan Review Ordinance to establish a submission deadline for which parties must comply with during the site plan review process as certified by the Selectboard on March 17, 2025, be enacted?

Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption.

Note: Copies of the ordinance proposed above are available from the Town Clerk.

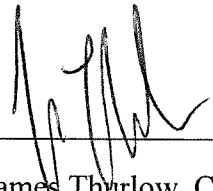
Article 50 **Floodplain Management Ordinance:** Shall an amendment to the Floodplain Management Ordinance to replace specific application fee amounts with references to fees as set from time to time by the Selectboard as certified by the Selectboard on March 17, 2025, be enacted?

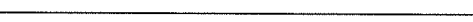
Recommendation: Selectboard recommend adoption.

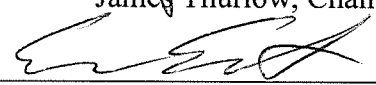
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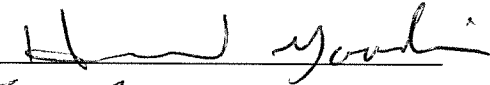
Given under our hands at Tremont, Maine this 22nd day of April 2025.

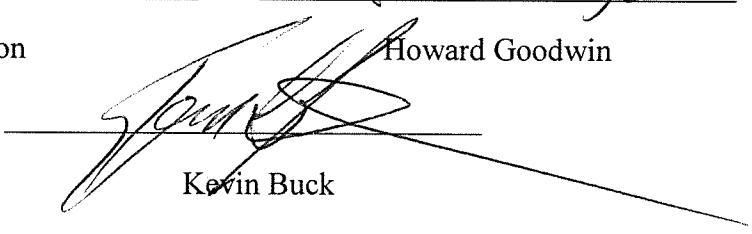
Tremont Selectboard



James Thurlow, Chair

McKenzie Jewett, Vice Chair

Eric Eaton

Howard Goodwin

Kevin Buck

