

**WARRANT FOR 2023 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

TO: Cynthia Bourgeois, Constable, Town of Washington.

GREETINGS

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Washington, Knox County, Maine, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Bryant Room of the Gibbs Library, 40 Old Union Road, Washington, on Friday, March 24, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., then and there to act on Article 1 and by secret ballot on Article 2, as set out below, the polling hours therefore to be from 10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.:

And to notify and warn said voters to meet at the Prescott Memorial School, 100 Waldoboro Road, Washington, on Saturday, March 25, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., then and there to act on Articles 3 through 41 as set out below, to wit:

Article 1: To choose a moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

**Town Clerk, Mary Anderson, opened town meeting before the polls were opened for the Town Election. Phil Meunier, Fire Chief, led the Pledge of Allegiance. A motion was made and seconded to nominate Walter Metcalf, the only nominee, as moderator, who then was elected with 3 votes. The Town Clerk duly swore him into office.**

Article 2: To elect all necessary town officers and school board members as are required to be elected.

**As Moderator, Walter Metcalf read Article 2, inspected and secured the ballot box and opened the polls.**

**Ballot Clerks Linda Luce, Mildred Melgard, Marla Lanphier, Cathy Blake, and Jacquelyn Metcalf checked in voters. The polls were closed at 8:00p.m. by Walter Metcalf. Ballot Clerks Joan Tognacci, Kathleen Ocean and Jacquelyn Metcalf counted the ballots. Walter Metcalf adjourned the meeting until 10:00a.m. Saturday, March 25, 2023 at the Prescott Memorial School.**

**On Saturday, March 25, 2023, David Martucci was sworn in as Deputy Moderator. Mildred Melgard and Linda Luce checked 58 voters into the town meeting. Two people in attendance were not registered voters. Town Clerk Mary Anderson opened Town Meeting and Fire Chief Phil Meunier led the Pledge of Allegiance. The town clerk announced the results of Article 2 as follows: 145 votes cast**

**Select Board/Assessor/Overseer of the Poor – 3-year term**

**Katherine Grinnell: 92  
Thomas Johnston: 50  
Blank: 3**

**School Board member: 3-year term**

**Noah Botley: 130  
Blank: 10  
Write in: 5**

**Mary congratulated Kate and Noah on their win and Tom for his years of service. Also, Guy Bourrie was thanked for his dedication for service as School Board member for 13 years.**

**Wesley Daniel presented the Spirit of America, Unsung Hero Award. The Town of Washington has been presenting this award since 2007. Mildred Melgard was the recipient of the 2023 award.**

Article 3: To elect seven citizens and two alternates to serve on the Town of Washington Budget Committee.

**A motion was made and seconded to elect seven citizens and two alternates to serve on the Town of Washington Budget Committee.**

**David Martucci called for nominations for seven citizens and two alternates to serve on the Budget Committee. Wesley Daniel read the list of nominees who were elected unanimously: Deborah Bocko, Wendy Carr, Jesse Casas, Sean Donaghey, Donald Grinnell, Kathleen Ocean, David Williams. Kimberly Linscott and Joan Tognacci were elected as alternates. Moved and seconded. Donald Grinnell, as Chair of the Budget Committee, acknowledged that David Martucci has chosen not to run again to be on the Budget Committee and thanked him for serving for many, many years!**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 3 passes.**

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to appoint all necessary town officials.

**A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Select Board to appoint all necessary town officials.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 4 passes.**

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to authorize that the Plumbing Inspector be paid from fees collected from plumbing permits; the E911 Coordinator be paid from E911 application fees; and the Driveway Entrance Coordinator be paid from driveway entrance application fees.

**A motion was made and seconded to authorize that the Plumbing Inspector be paid from fees collected from plumbing permits; the E911 Coordinator be paid from E911 applications fees; and the Driveway Entrance Coordinator be paid from driveway entrance application fees.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 5 passes.**

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount in each budgeted category of the 2023 annual budget during the period from January 1, 2024, to the date of the 2024 Annual Town Meeting.

*Explanation: This article legalizes municipal expenditures made after the fiscal year ends, but before the next Annual Town Meeting.*

**A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Municipal Officers to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount in each budgeted category of the 2023 annual budget during the period from January 1, 2024, to the date of the 2024 Annual Town Meeting.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 6 passes.**

Article 7: To see if the Town will fix a date when taxes will be due and payable, and fix a rate of interest to be charged on unpaid taxes after said date.

*(Select Board and Tax Collector recommend 2023 taxes will be due and payable on October 2, 2023)*

*(Maximum interest rate on overdue taxes allowed by State Law: 8.0%)*

**A motion was made and seconded to fix a date when taxes will be due and payable, and fix a rate of interest to be charged on unpaid taxes after said date.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 7 passes.**

- Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to set the interest rate to be paid by the Town on abated taxes at 4%.  
*Explanation: If taxes are paid and later abated, the Town must refund the abated taxes and pay interest on them. 36 MRSA, Sub. Sect. 506A calls for interest of 8% on abated taxes if the Town fails to set a rate. The rate set by the Town cannot be less than 4%.*
- A motion was made and seconded to set the interest rate to be paid by the Town on abated taxes at 4%.**
- Motion carries unanimously. Article 8 passes.**
- Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to make a final determination regarding the closing or opening of roads to winter maintenance pursuant to 23 MRSA Section 2953.
- A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Municipal Officers to make a final determination regarding the closing or opening of roads to winter maintenance pursuant to 23 MRSA Section 2953.**
- Motion carries unanimously. Article 9 passes.**
- Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to sell and dispose of property acquired by tax liens, other liens, or other processes, and to issue quitclaim deeds for same. Before disposing of the property, Select Board are authorized to offer the sale of the property to the former owner for back taxes, interest, and costs. If the offer is not accepted in 60 days, the Select Board may dispose of the property by public auction. All net proceeds from any auction shall be placed in the town's road reserve account.
- A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Select Board to sell and dispose of property acquired by tax liens, other liens, or other processes, and to issue quitclaim deeds for same. Before disposing of the property, Select Board are authorized to offer the sale of the property to the former owner for back taxes, interest, and costs. If the offer is not accepted in 60 days, the Select Board may dispose of the property by public auction. All net proceeds from any auction shall be placed in the town's road reserve account.**
- Motion carries unanimously. Article 10 passes.**
- Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to appropriate money from the sale of any Town tax acquired lands to pay the costs of said sale.
- A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Select Board to appropriate money from the sale of any Town tax acquired lands to pay the costs of said sale.**
- Motion carries unanimously. Article 11 passes.**
- Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of town-owned items with a value of \$5,000.00 or less under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable, and to place the proceeds of sale in the General Fund or Reserve Account that is appropriate.
- A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Select Board to dispose of town-owned items with a value of \$5,000.00 or less under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable, and to place the proceeds of sale in the General Fund or Reserve Account that is appropriate.**
- Motion carries unanimously. Article 12 passes.**

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to sell surplus equipment with expected value over \$5000.00 by sealed bid, and to place the proceeds of the sale in a General Fund or Reserve Account, as appropriate.

**A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Select Board to sell surplus equipment with expected value over \$5,000.00 by sealed bid, and to place the proceeds of the sale in a General Fund or Reserve Account, as appropriate.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 13 passes.**

Article 14: To see if the Town will authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes for the years 2023 and 2024 for taxes not yet due or assessed and for no interest to accrue.

**A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes for the years 2023 and 2024 for taxes not yet due or assessed and for no interest to accrue.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 14 passes.**

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to offer a Tax Club Payment Plan and to waive interest on taxes for those accounts that are kept current.

**A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Tax Collector to offer a Tax Club Payment Plan and to waive interest on taxes for those accounts that are kept current.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 15 passes.**

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to authorize municipal officials to apply for Homeland Security and/or other grants that may come available.

**A motion was made and seconded to authorize municipal officials to apply for Homeland Security and/or other grants that may come available.**

**Donald Grinnell, EMA Director, stated there was a major storm in December 2022 which caused a lot of damage and washouts that Frank Jones, Road Foreman, and Public Works crew had to repair. Don and Frank gathered all the data and applied, through Knox County and the State, for a Presidential Disaster Declaration. The town will receive \$66,000.00 (75% from Federal Funds; 15% State Funds; 10% from the town). The town should be receiving this payment later this year.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 16 passes.**

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to spend any grant money received, not to exceed the amount of the grant, for the stated purposes of the grant only.

**A motion was made and seconded to spend any grant money received, not to exceed the amount of the grant, for the stated purposes of the grant only.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 17 passes.**

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to move the 2023 overlay, plus supplemental tax assessments and less any tax abatements, into the Road Maintenance Reserve Account.

**A motion was made and seconded to move the 2023 overlay, plus supplemental tax assessments and less any tax abatements, into the Road Maintenance Reserve Account.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 18 passes.**

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to move any monies remaining in the Public Safety account on December 31, 2023 to the Fire Equipment Reserve account.

**A motion was made and seconded to move any monies remaining in the Public Safety account on December 31, 2023 to the Fire Equipment Reserve account.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 19 passes.**

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to move any monies remaining in the Maintenance of Town Roads account on December 31, 2023 to the Road Maintenance Equipment Reserve account, up to a limit of \$10,000.

**A motion was made and seconded to move any monies remaining in the Maintenance of Town Roads account on December 31, 2023 to the Road Maintenance Equipment Reserve account, up to a limit of \$10,000.00.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 20 passes.**

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the 2023 Snowmobile Refund to the Washington Hill & Gully Riders for the sole purpose of maintaining their snowmobile trails, to be open to the use of the public from November 15 until April 1 and to authorize the municipal officers to enter into an agreement with the club, under such terms and conditions as the municipal officers may deem advisable, for that purpose, or see what action the Town will take.

*Explanation: The snowmobile registration money must be appropriated annually by the Town for whatever purpose it desires. If all or part of it is appropriated to the snowmobile club, one of the conditions of that appropriation must be that the club's trails are open to public use. Otherwise, it would be an illegal appropriation of public funds for a private group.*

**A motion was made and seconded to appropriate the 2023 Snowmobile Refund to the Washington Hill & Gully Riders for the sole purpose of maintaining their snowmobile trails, to be open to the use of the public from November 15 until April 1 and to authorize the municipal officers to enter into an agreement with the club, under such terms and conditions as the municipal officers may deem advisable, for that purpose, or see what action the Town will take.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 21 passes.**

**BREAK: Peg Hobbs, Recreation Committee Chair, spoke about a new endeavor. We need safe walking trails in this community. There is grant money available to rural towns for trails. This is an idea, looking for people to come forward to help with this project to see if we can find places to put the trail. The Select Board has been kind enough to open a separate savings account for the project. The funds will be separate from the taxpayers' fund of the Recreation Committee. The first fundraiser will be a cornhole tournament held at the Strawberry Festival on July 8<sup>th</sup>. There is a sign-up sheet if you're interested in working on this project. We will be working with a company that helps people to build and set up trails.**

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the following General Fund revenues to be applied toward the 2023 property tax commitment, thereby decreasing the 2023 tax commitment by \$573,500.00.

*Select Board and Budget Committee recommend:*

|                                |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Excise Tax Revenue             | 300,000.00   |
| Revenue Sharing                | 240,000.00   |
| Tree Growth Reimbursement      | 4,000.00     |
| Building Permits               | 2,000.00     |
| Mining Permits and Inspections | 6,000.00     |
| Interest on Overdue Taxes      | 5,000.00     |
| Veterans Reimbursement         | 1,200.00     |
| General Fund Interest          | 3,000.00     |
| Other Town Fees Collected      | 12,300.00    |
| Total                          | \$573,500.00 |

**A motion was made and seconded to appropriate the above General Fund revenues to be applied toward the 2023 property tax commitment, thereby decreasing the 2023 tax commitment by \$573,500.00.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 22 passes.**

Article 23: To See if the Town will vote to appropriate \$40,000 from Unexpended 2022 appropriations, and \$50,000 from the Undesignated Fund balance to be applied to the 2023 property tax commitment, to decrease that commitment by \$90,000.

**A motion was made and seconded to appropriate \$40,000.00 from Unexpected 2022 appropriations, and \$50,000.00 from the Undesignated Fund balance to be applied to the 2023 property tax commitment, to decrease that commitment by \$90,000.00.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 23 passes.**

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$305,686.00 from property taxation for 2023 Knox County, Knox County Communications, and Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization.

*Note: Due to ongoing Ambulance budget discussions, Union Ambulance assessment will be voted on in June with the school budget.*

*Select Board and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:*

|                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Knox County Tax Assessment | \$200,585.00     |
| Knox County Communications | 58,012.00        |
| Tri-County Solid Waste     | <u>47,089.00</u> |
|                            | \$305,686.00     |

**A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$305,686.00 from property taxation for 2023 Knox County, Knox County Communications, and Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 24 passes.**

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$64,684.00 from property taxation for General Government Operations.

*Select Board and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:*

|                                 |               |           |                          |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Legal Fees                      |               | 10,000.00 |                          |
| Administration                  |               | 54,684.00 |                          |
| Advertising                     | 1,000.00      |           |                          |
| Computer Annual Fees            | 17,684.00     |           |                          |
| Audit of Town Books             | 8,000.00      |           |                          |
| Computer Tech Support           | 2,600.00      |           |                          |
| MMA Dues                        | 3,300.00      |           |                          |
| Workshops and Training          | 1,200.00      |           |                          |
| Mileage                         | 2,000.00      |           |                          |
| Office Equipment                | 4,200.00      |           |                          |
| Office Supplies                 | 2,500.00      |           |                          |
| Postage                         | 3,600.00      |           |                          |
| Select Board Discretionary Fund | 500.00        |           |                          |
| Tax Maps                        | 1,000.00      |           |                          |
| Tax Billing                     | 1,500.00      |           |                          |
| Town Report Printing            | 4,000.00      |           |                          |
| Tax Anticipation Note           | 1,000.00      |           |                          |
| Money Order Fees                | <u>600.00</u> |           |                          |
|                                 | Subtotal      | 54,684.00 |                          |
|                                 |               |           | Total <u>\$64,684.00</u> |

**A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$64,684.00 from property taxation for General Government Operations.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 25 passes.**

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$26,961.00 from property taxation for Insurance.

*Select Board and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:*

|                                |       |               |
|--------------------------------|-------|---------------|
| MMA Insurance Risk Pool        |       | \$ 20,512.00  |
| Unemployment Insurance         |       | 256.00        |
| Worker's Compensation Premium  |       | 5293.00       |
| Volunteer Insurance            |       | 100.00        |
| Firefighter Accident Insurance |       | <u>800.00</u> |
|                                | Total | \$ 26,961.00  |

**A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$26,961.00 from property taxation for Insurance.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 26 passes.**

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$254,595.00 from property taxation for Salaries, Stipends, Employee Health Insurance, and Payroll Expenses.

*Select Board and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:*

|  |                 |                  |
|--|-----------------|------------------|
| Salaries and Stipends                        |                 | \$175,250.00     |
| Select Board (3)                             | 22,500.00       |                  |
| Secretary - Select Board                     | 1,000.00        |                  |
| Town Clerk/Tax Collector                     | 26,625.00       |                  |
| Treasurer                                    | 14,945.00       |                  |
| Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer    | 25,740.00       |                  |
| Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer II | 16,840.00       |                  |
| Registrar of Voters                          | 1,500.00        |                  |
| Ballot Clerks                                | 2,600.00        |                  |
| EMA Director                                 | 750.00          |                  |
| Health Officer                               | 1,000.00        |                  |
| Fire Warden (2)                              | 300.00          |                  |
| Fire Chief                                   | 6,000.00        |                  |
| Deputy Fire Chief                            | 3,500.00        |                  |
| Firefighter Stipends                         | 8,500.00        |                  |
| Secretary - Planning Board                   | 1,000.00        |                  |
| Secretary – Appeals Board                    | 400.00          |                  |
| Assessor’s Agent                             | 10,000.00       |                  |
| Animal Control Officer                       | 3,500.00        |                  |
| Code Enforcement Officer                     | 25,000.00       |                  |
| Constable                                    | 100.00          |                  |
| Moderator of open March town meeting         | 250.00          |                  |
| School Board Member Stipend (2)              | 1,000.00        |                  |
| Custodial Services                           | <u>2,200.00</u> |                  |
| Sub-total                                    | \$175,250.00    |                  |
| Town Portion of Employee Health Insurance    | 42,845.00       |                  |
| FICA Payroll Expenses                        | 28,000.00       |                  |
| Town Portion of SIMPLE IRA                   | 8,500.00        |                  |
|  |                 | <u>79,345.00</u> |
|  | Total           | \$254,595.00     |

**A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$254,595.00 from property taxation for Salaries, Stipends, Employee Health Insurance, and Payroll Expenses.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 27 passes.**

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$413,624.00 from property taxation for Maintenance of Town Roads and related operations.  
*Select Board and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:*

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Road Maintenance Materials & Supplies     | 11,000.00     |
| Plow Truck Payment                        | 20,184.00     |
| Plow Truck Payment (P600, 2021)           | 18,800.00     |
| Truck Fuel                                | 27,000.00     |
| Truck Maintenance                         |               |
| P100                                      | 4,000.00      |
| P200                                      | 4,000.00      |
| P300                                      | 4,000.00      |
| P500                                      | 4,000.00      |
| P600                                      | 4,000.00      |
| Cutting Edges and Sander Chains           | 15,000.00     |
| Culverts                                  | 7,500.00      |
| Loader and Backhoe Fuel                   | 5,000.00      |
| Loader, Backhoe & Chipper Maintenance     | 5,500.00      |
| Garage Mortgage                           | 12,290.00     |
| Garage Utilities                          | 8,000.00      |
| Garage Maintenance                        | 2,500.00      |
| Road Maintenance Labor                    | 183,750.00    |
| Equipment Rental                          | 13,000.00     |
| Screening Winter Sand                     | 27,500.00     |
| Road Salt                                 | 35,000.00     |
| E911 and Road Signs                       | 600.00        |
| State Fee, Mining Permit                  | 400.00        |
| Driver OSHA and DOT Screening and Testing | 600.00        |
|   | <u>600.00</u> |
| Total                                     | \$ 413,624.00 |

**A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$413,624.00 from property taxation for Maintenance of Town Roads and related operations.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 28 passes.**

Article 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$200,000 from property taxation and to use up to \$300,000 from the Road Maintenance Reserve Fund for the paving of Town Roads. *(Total of \$500,000)* Any monies not used from this article shall revert to the Road Maintenance Reserve Fund on Dec 31, 2023.

**A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$200,000.00 from property taxation and to use up to \$300,000.00 from the Road Maintenance Reserve Fund for the paving of Town Roads (total of \$500,000.00). Any monies not used from this article shall revert to the Road Maintenance Reserve Fund on December 31, 2023.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 29 passes.**

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$4,000.00 from property taxation for General Assistance.  
*Select Board and Budget Committee recommend:*  
 General Assistance \$4,000.00

**A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$4,000.00 from property taxation for General Assistance.**

**Peg Hobbs asked if that was enough money. Wesley Daniel said it was.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 30 passes.**

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$84,065.00 from property taxation for Public Safety.  
*Select Board and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:*

|                                 |                 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Fire Department General Support | 12,500.00       |
| Fire Department Equipment       | 12,000.00       |
| Firefighter Training            | 2,000.00        |
| Firefighter Physicals           | 2,500.00        |
| Fire Truck Loan Payment         | 31,365.00       |
| Tanker Truck Loan Payment       | 19,700.00       |
| Hose Testing                    | <u>4,000.00</u> |
| Total                           | \$84,065.00     |

**A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$84,065.00 from property taxation for Public Safety.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 31 passes.**

Article 32: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$58,300.00 from property taxation for Utilities and Maintenance.

*Select Board and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:*

|                                |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Town Utilities                 | 17,500.00       |
| Grounds and Monument Gardens   | 1,000.00        |
| Building Maintenance           | 10,000.00       |
| Cemetery Maintenance           | 20,000.00       |
| Street Lights                  | 3,500.00        |
| Municipal Complex Snow Removal | <u>6,300.00</u> |
| Total                          | \$58,300.00     |

**A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$58,300.00 from property taxation for Utilities and Maintenance.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 32 passes.**

Article 33: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$600.00 from property taxation for Boards and Committees.

*Select Board and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:*

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Conservation and Parks Committee                  | 200.00        |
| Planning Board Expense                            | 200.00        |
| Comprehensive Plan and Ordinance Review Committee | <u>200.00</u> |
| Total   | \$600.00      |

**A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$600.00 from property taxation for Boards and Committees.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 33 passes.**

Article 34: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$48,500.00 from property taxation for Town Carry-over Accounts.

*Select Board and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:*

|                               |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Headstone Restoration Fund    | 1,000.00        |
| Town Record Preservation Fund | 3,000.00        |
| Recreation Committee          | 2,000.00        |
| Fire Truck Replacement Fund   | 20,000.00       |
| Road Maintenance Truck Fund   | 20,000.00       |
| EMS Training Fund             | <u>2,500.00</u> |
| Total                         | \$48,500.00     |

**A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$48,500.00 from property taxation for Town Carry-over accounts.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 34 passes.**

Article 35: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$38,726.00 from property taxation for Miscellaneous Accounts.

*Select Board and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:*

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Washington Library Association                          | 15,000.00       |
| Washington Community Scholarship                        | 1,000.00        |
| Minnie Weaver Scholarship                               | 1,000.00        |
| Washington Historical Society                           | 3,500.00        |
| Washington Food Pantry                                  | 2,000.00        |
| Pope Memorial Shelter                                   | 2,229.00        |
| Flags for Veterans Graves and Town Parks                | 750.00          |
| Midcoast Conservancy Dues (Damariscotta Lake Watershed) | <u>50.00</u>    |
| Sub-total   | \$25,529.00     |
| Social Agencies and Concerns                            |                 |
| New Hope Midcoast                                       | 900.00          |
| Waldo Community Action Partners                         | 5,276.00        |
| Spectrum Generations                                    | 952.00          |
| Pine Tree Chapter, Red Cross                            | 1,500.00        |
| Life Flight of Maine                                    | 796.00          |
| Penquis   | <u>3,773.00</u> |
| Sub-total   | \$13,197.00     |
| Total   | \$38,726.00     |

**A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$38,726.00 from property taxation for Miscellaneous accounts.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 35 passes.**

Article 36: To see if the Town will vote to authorize spending up to \$74,586.00 from the Local Roads Assistance Program (LRAP) for Capital Road Improvement.

**A motion was made and seconded to authorize spending up to \$74,586.00 from the Local Roads Assistance Program (LRAP) for Capital Road Improvement.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 36 passes.**

Article 37: To see if the Town will vote to adopt a ‘Town-Owned Property Ordinance’ as posted and included in the Town Report. *(This Ordinance is prompted by the Knox County Sheriff’s Office, in order to post restrictive signage at Town Properties, in accordance with MMA guidelines.)*

**A motion was made and seconded to adopt a ‘Town-Owned Property Ordinance’ as posted and included in the Town Report. David Williams asked if this would prevent the water trucks filling up at the pond. Wesley Daniel said this ordinance will allow the town to put up signage; there will be a weight limit that would prevent them from filling up. David asked who would enforce the signage. Wesley stated, law enforcement. Kate Grinnell asked if the town fire trucks will still be allowed to use the public landing to fill up. Wesley said yes.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 37 passes.**

Article 38: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$20,000 from property taxation for a Revaluation Fund. *(Note :State of Maine standards suggest that a town’s assessor or agent review all property every five years. It has been many years since the town has had a full revaluation. This fund would be built up over 5 years, and would pay a contractor to conduct a full revaluation.)*

**A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$20,000.00 from property taxation for a Revaluation Fund.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 38 passes.**

*(Note: Approximately \$80,000 in ARPA funds available for articles 39,40.)*

Article 39: To see if the Town will vote to authorize spending from the American Recovery Plan Act funds for the following items:

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Upgrade of the Town website:                | \$5,000  |
| Ceiling insulation for Public Works Garage: | \$15,000 |
| Broadband connections for excluded parcels: | \$5,000  |

**A motion was made and seconded to authorize spending from the American Recovery Plan Act funds for the following items: Upgrade of the Town website - \$5,000.00; Ceiling insulation for Public Works Garage - \$15,000.00; Broadband connections for excluded parcels - \$5,000.00.**

**Janet Martucci asked what an excluded parcel is. Tom Johnston explained it’s a census parcel that the grant won’t cover, a section of Waldoboro Road (from Jefferson Road intersection to the Waldoboro line on the east side only). This part of Waldoboro has Spectrum broadband available. We may not need this money because the federal government is looking at different ways of determining who has service. To make it fair and equitable for all Washington residents, if necessary, this would provide the hook ups to these houses.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 39 passes.**

Article 40: To see if the Town will vote to purchase an excavator with attachments for road and roadside maintenance, with a total expenditure of \$103,917. A downpayment of \$40,000 to be taken from ARPA funds, and \$63,917 to be borrowed and paid back over a 5-year term.

Financial statement for Article 40:

*Treasurer's Financial Statement, Town of Washington*

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 1. Total Town Indebtedness                        |              |
| a. 1 <sup>st</sup> Plow Truck (1 year remaining)  | \$19,643.28  |
| b. 1 <sup>st</sup> Fire Truck (7 years remaining) | \$172,613.66 |
| c. Fire Truck Chassis (4 years remaining)         | \$75,114.53  |
| d. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Plow Truck (4 years remaining) | \$71,700.23  |
| e. Garage Mortgage (10 years remaining)           | \$107,333.48 |
| f. Broadband Line of Credit (1 year remaining)    | \$17,912.00  |
| 2. Costs  |              |
| Excavator with attachments                        | \$63,917.00  |
| (5-year loan @ 4.74% interest; est.               |              |
| Annual P&I payment)                               | \$14,686.25  |
| Total Payment                                     | \$73,431.25  |

**A motion was made and seconded to purchase an excavator with attachments for road and roadside maintenance, with a total expenditure of \$103,917.00. A downpayment of \$40,000.00 to be taken from ARPA funds and \$63,917.00 to be borrowed and paid back over a 5-year term.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 40 passes.**

Article 41: To see if the Town will vote to permanently increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Washington 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 that tax levy limit.

**A motion was made and seconded to permanently increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Washington 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 that tax levy limit.**

**Motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 41 passes.**

Given under our hands on this 1st day of March, 2023:

Wesley F. Daniel  
Chairman, Select Board

Mitchell A. Garnett  
Select Board

Thomas N. Johnston  
Select Board

Attest:  
Mary Anderson, Town Clerk