

WARRANT FOR 2020 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

TO: Christopher Lascoutx, 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 Tuesday, July 14, 2020, at 8:00 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 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.:

And to notify and warn said voters to meet at the Washington Fire Department, 42 Old Union Road, Washington, on Saturday, July 18, 2020, 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 Primary State Election, School Election and Town Election. The Town Election and meeting were postponed due to COVID-19 and all the restrictions. A motion was made and seconded to nominate Walter Metcalf as moderator who was the only nominee and 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.

A motion was made and seconded to elect all necessary town officers and school board members as are required to be elected. The ballot boxes were inspected and secured. Walter Metcalf opened the polls.

Linda Luce, Jacqueline Metcalf, Mildred Melgard, Cathy Blake, and Elizabeth Grinnell checked in voters. The polls were closed at 8p.m. by Moderator Walter Metcalf. Ballot Clerks Katherine Grinnell, Elizabeth Grinnell, Cathy Blake, Stephanie Grinnell and Mary Anderson counted the ballots. The moderator adjourned the meeting until 10a.m. Saturday, July 14, 2020, at the Washington Fire Station.

On Saturday, July 14, Linda Luce and Mildred Melgard checked in 56 voters into the town meeting. Michael Mayo was sworn in as Deputy Moderator. The town clerk announced the results of Article 2 as follows:

**The following is a list of ballots cast:
Selectman/Assessor/Overseer of the Poor 3 year term:
Thomas Johnston: 277
ShaRon Kelly: 93
Blanks: 38**

**School Board Member 3 year term:
Guy Bourrie: 314
Blanks: 47**

Town Clerk, Mary Anderson opened Town Meeting and Fire Chief, Phil Meunier, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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.

Michael Mayo 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: Donald Grinnell, Walter Metcalf, Kathleen Ocean, Wendy Carr, Jesse Casas, David Williams, David Martucci. Deborah Bocko and Peg Hobbs were elected as alternates.

All in favor of this slate

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

A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Selectmen 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 applications 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 application 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 2020 annual budget during the period from January 1, 2021, to the date of the 2021 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 2020 annual budget during the period from January 1, 2021, to the date of the 2021 Annual Town Meeting. Charlotte Henderson asked if we need to amend the dates. Tom Johnston stated that this is for the 2021 town meeting. We've already exceeded what we were authorized for this year, 2020, through March at last year's town meeting. We were authorized to go beyond March per the governor's emergency declaration.

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.

*(Selectmen and Tax Collector recommend 2020 taxes will be due and payable on October 1, 2020)
(Maximum interest rate on overdue taxes allowed by State Law: 8.0%)*

David Martucci made a motion for October 1, 2020 for the due date and 8% for the interest rate, motion was seconded. The first vote is for the proposed amount; taxes due and payable on October 1, 2020 and the interest rate on overdue taxes to be 8%. The second vote is to pass the article as written.

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 Selectmen to sell and dispose of property acquired by tax liens, other liens, or other processes, and to issue quitclaim deeds for same. Before going to public auction, Selectmen are authorized to offer the sale of the property to the former owner for back taxes, interests, and costs. If the offer is not accepted in 60 days, the Selectmen 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 Selectmen to sell and dispose of property acquired by tax liens, other liens, or other processes, and to issue quitclaim deeds for same. Before going to public auction, Selectmen are authorized to offer the sale of the property to the former owner for back taxes, interests, and costs. If the offer is not accepted in 60 days, the Selectmen 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 authorize the Selectmen 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 Selectmen 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 Selectmen to dispose of town-owned items with a value of \$5,000.00 or less under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Selectmen to dispose of town-owned items with a value of \$5,000.00 or less under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

Motion carries unanimously

Article 12 passes.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the 2020 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 2020 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.

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 2020 and 2021 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 2020 and 2021 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. Donald Grinnell asked how many citizens take advantage of the Tax Club. Mary Anderson stated 70-90.

Motion carries unanimously

Article 15 passes.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Fire Chief and other municipal officials to apply for Homeland Security and/or other grants for Emergency Services.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Fire Chief and other municipal officials to apply for Homeland Security and/or other grants for Emergency Services.

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 2020 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 2020 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, 2020 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, 2020, to the Fire Equipment Reserve account.

Motion carries unanimously

Article 19 passes.

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to approve an ordinance entitled Adult Use Marijuana Licensing.
Note: As posted with this warrant, and available at the Town Office

A motion was made and seconded to approve an ordinance entitled Adult Use Marijuana Licensing.

Motion carries with 4 opposed

Article 20 passes.

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to approve the amendment to the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization Interlocal Cooperative Agreement as appears below in this Article and made a part hereof:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the amendment to the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization Interlocal Cooperative Agreement as appears below in this Article and made a part hereof.

Motion carries unanimously

Article 21 passes.

TRI-COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION
INTERLOCAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

Part 3 – ADMINISTRATION

Section 3.2, Joint Board. The operation and management responsibilities of the organization shall be delegated to Directors designated as the Joint Board. ~~At least one Director from each Member Town shall be a municipal officer. Additional Directors and alternates may be municipal officers or municipal officials. It is desirous, but not required, that Directors and alternates be municipal officers (Selectmen) or municipal officials.~~ The apportionment of Directors among the member communities shall be as follows: one Director from each Member Town with a population of 1000 or less; two Directors from each Member Town with a population of 1,001 to 2,500; three Directors from each Member Town with a population greater than 2,500. Initial allocation of seats on the Joint Board shall be delegated to Member Towns in accordance with populations reflected by 1988 Maine Department of Human Services census data. Subsequent allocations shall be made based upon United States Census Bureau data, beginning with 1990 reports, or upon population data provided by the Maine Department of Human Services, whichever is more current. Directors and alternates from each Member Town shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen of that town to serve a term of one year. Each Director or alternate may be reappointed to such terms indefinitely. The Board of Selectmen of each Member Town shall appoint one alternate member to the Joint Board. An alternate may be appointed by the chairman of the Joint Board as a voting member of that body at any time a Director from his or her perspective Member Town is absent when a vote is taken. Under no other circumstances may an alternate have voting power. Each Director, or voting alternate where appropriate, shall cast one vote.

Purpose: The purpose of this proposed amendment to the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization Inter local Cooperative Agreement is to eliminate the requirement that all members of the Joint Board be either municipal officers (Selectmen) or municipal officials. Restricting membership on the Joint Board to municipal officers or officials has proven problematic. This amendment will allow the Selectmen of each Member Town to appoint non-governmental representatives to the Joint Board.

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to approve the amendment to the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization Interlocal Cooperative Agreement as appears below in this Article and made a part hereof:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the amendment to the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization Interlocal Cooperative Agreement as appears below in this Article and made a part hereof.

Motion carries unanimously

Article 22 passes.

TRI-COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION
INTERLOCAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

Part 4 – FINANCE

Section 4.2 In-Kind Contributions.

- (a) Subject to prior approval by the Joint Board, credit shall be given to the parties for in-kind contributions to the Corporation. Credit amounts shall be based upon actual costs and shall be limited to administrative overhead, office space, telephone, equipment and supplies, and to costs of obtaining real property acquired and provided by a party for a facility site.
- (b) The Corporation agrees to provide an annual in-lieu-of-taxes ~~credit payment~~ to the Member Town in which the Facility is located equal to the amount of property tax revenue lost as a result of the Corporation's Tax-exempt status.

Purpose: The purpose of this proposed amendment to the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization Interlocal Cooperative Agreement is to change the manner of recognizing in-kind contributions to a Member hosting the facility from an actual payment to a credit.

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$4200.00 to replace the Dugouts on the Little League ball field.

A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$4,200.00 to replace the Dugouts on the Little League ball field. Peg Hobbs, Recreation Committee, stated she hopes that this article passes. The dugouts were built about 15 years ago and are rotting. The new dugouts will be built by the Amish in Whitefield; they will be tied down, have metal roofs and a better gravel pad underneath.

Motion carries unanimously

Article 23 passes.

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the following General Fund revenues to be applied toward the 2020 property tax commitment, thereby decreasing the 2020 tax commitment by \$469,175.00.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend:

Excise Tax Revenue	265,000.00
Revenue Sharing	90,000.00
Tree Growth Reimbursement	2,800.00
Building Permits	1,500.00
Mining Permits and Inspections	4,000.00
Interest on Overdue Taxes	12,000.00
Veterans Reimbursement	1,600.00
General Fund Interest	8,000.00
Other Town Fees Collected	9,275.00
Unexpended 2019 Appropriations	25,000.00
Transferred from Undesignated Fund Balance	<u>50,000.00</u>
Total	\$469,175.00

A motion was made and seconded to appropriate the following General Fund revenues to be applied toward the 2020 property tax commitment, thereby decreasing the 2020 tax commitment by \$469,175.00.

Motion carried unanimously

Article 24 passes.

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$326,510.00 from property taxation for 2020 Knox County, Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization and Union Ambulance assessments.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:

Knox County Tax Assessment	\$174,381.00
Knox County Communications	50,450.00
Union Ambulance	58,174.00
Tri-County Solid Waste	<u>43,505.00</u>
	\$326,510.00

A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$326,510.00 from property taxation for 2020 Knox County, Tri-County Solid Waste management Organization and Union Ambulance assessments.

Motion carried unanimously

Article 25 passes.

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$52,450.00 from property taxation for General Government Operations.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:

Legal Fees		7,500.00
Administration		44,950.00
Advertising	1,000.00	
Computer Annual Fees	14,000.00	
Audit of Town Books	5,900.00	
Computer Tech Support	1,000.00	
MMA Dues	2,800.00	
Workshops and Training	2,000.00	
Mileage	1,500.00	
Office Equipment	4,200.00	
Office Supplies	2,500.00	
Postage	3,100.00	
Selectmen Discretionary Fund	500.00	
Tax Maps	1,000.00	
Tax Billing	1,500.00	
Town Report Printing	3,000.00	
Tax Anticipation Note	\$500.00	
Money Order Fees	<u>450.00</u>	
	Subtotal	44,950.00
		Total <u>\$52,450</u>

A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$52,450.00 from property taxation for General Government Operations.

Motion carried unanimously

Article 26 passes.

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$32,338.00 from property taxation for Insurance

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:

MMA Insurance Risk Pool	\$ 21,935.00
Unemployment Insurance	186.00
Worker's Compensation Premium	9,317.00
Volunteer Insurance	100.00
Firefighter Accident Insurance	<u>800.00</u>
	Total \$ 32,338.00

A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$32,338.00 from property taxation for Insurance.

Motion carried unanimously

Article 27 passes

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$198,787.00 from property taxation for Salaries, Stipends, Employee Health Insurance, and Payroll Expenses.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines \$198,787:

Salaries and Stipends		\$139,142.00
Selectmen (3)	19,500.00	
Secretary - Selectmen	800.00	
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	23,445.00	
Treasurer	13,155.00	
Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer	22,660.00	
Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer II	14,832.00	
Registrar of Voters	1,500.00	
Ballot Clerks	2,500.00	
EMA Director	750.00	
Health Officer	1000.00	
Fire Warden (2)	300.00	
Fire Chief	4,000.00	
Deputy Fire Chief	3,000.00	
Firefighter Stipends	3,750.00	
Secretary - Planning Board	1,000.00	
Secretary – Appeals Board	400.00	
Assessor’s Agent	5,000.00	
Animal Control Officer	3000.00	
Code Enforcement Officer	15,450.00	
Constable	100.00	
Moderator of open March town meeting	200.00	
School Board Member Stipend (2)	1,000.00	
Custodial Services	<u>1,800.00</u>	
Sub-total	\$139,142.00	
Town Portion of Employee Health Insurance	37,500.00	
FICA Payroll Expenses	<u>22,145.00</u>	
	\$59,645.00	
		<u>Total 198,787.00</u>

A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$198,787.00 from property taxation for Salaries, Stipends, Employee Health Insurance, and Payroll Expenses.

Motion carries unanimously

Article 28 passes.

Article 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$413,484.00 from property taxation for Maintenance of Town Roads and related operations.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines: \$413,484.00

Road Maintenance Materials & Supplies	10,000.00
Plow Truck Payment	20,184.00
Truck Fuel	19,500.00
Truck Maintenance	
P100	2,000.00
P200	4,000.00
P300	4,000.00
P400	6,000.00
P500	4,000.00
Cutting Edges and Sander Chains	11,500.00
Culverts	3,000.00
Loader and Backhoe Fuel	3,500.00
Loader, Backhoe & Chipper Maintenance	5,500.00
Garage Mortgage	13,000.00
Garage Utilities	4,500.00
Garage Maintenance	2,500.00
Road Maintenance Labor	144,200.00
Equipment Rental	13,000.00
Screening Winter Sand	12,000.00
Road Salt	30,000.00
E911 and Road Signs	500.00
Paving and Capital Improvement of Town Roads	100,000.00
Driver OSHA and DOT Screening and Testing	<u>600.00</u>
Total	\$ 413,484.00

A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$413,484.00 from property taxation for Maintenance of Town Roads and related operations.

Motion carries unanimously

Article 29 passes.

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,000.00 from property taxation for General Assistance.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:

General Assistance	2,000.00
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A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$2,000.00 from property taxation for General Assistance. Lee Shane asked what the General Assistance covers. Wesley Daniel explained, for example, that if a resident in town needs help with their fuel or anything else, they come in and make out an application, and if they qualify the town will pay for part of that and the state pays the other part.

Motion carries unanimously

Article 30 passes.

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$63,165.00 from property taxation for Public Safety.
Selectmen 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
Hose Testing	<u>2,800.00</u>
Total	63,165.00

A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$63,165.00 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 \$46,500.00 from property taxation for Utilities and Maintenance.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:

Town Utilities	14,000.00
Grounds and Monument Gardens	1,000.00
Building and Grounds Maintenance	8,000.00
Cemetery Maintenance	14,000.00
Street Lights	3,500.00
Municipal Complex Snow Removal	<u>6,000.00</u>
Total	46,500.00

A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$46,500.00 from property taxation for Utilities and Maintenance.

Motion carried unanimously

Article 32 passes.

Article 33: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$450.00 from property taxation for Boards and Committees.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:

Conservation and Parks Committee	150.00
Planning Board Expense	150.00
Comprehensive Plan and Ordinance Review Committee	<u>150.00</u>
Total	450.00

A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$450.00 from property taxation for Boards and Committees.

Motion carried unanimously

Article 33 passes.

Article 34: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$66,100.00 from property taxation for Town Carry-over Accounts.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend as advisory lines:

Recreation Committee	2,000.00
Headstone Restoration Fund	1,000.00
West Washington Cemetery Restoration	3,000.00
Town Record Preservation Fund	100.00
Fire Truck Replacement Fund	30,000.00
Road Maintenance Truck Fund	<u>30,000.00</u>
Total	66,100.00

A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$66,100.00 from property taxation for Town Carry-over Accounts. *Donald Grinnell moved and David Williams seconded to amend the article to lower the fire truck replacement and road maintenance truck fund from \$30,000.00 to \$20,000.00 to reduce the article total to \$46,100.00* **Deborah Bocko asked why \$30,000.00 was decided upon and why should it be reduced.** **Thomas Johnston stated that in years past they have raised \$20,000.00 for both accounts. This year we are proposing to purchase a replacement chassis for the fire tanker and get that redone with the existing tank and also to replace one of the plow trucks. To give us a little more of a down payment we increased those lines to \$30,000.00 from \$20,000.00 with an agreement with the Budget Committee to lower those numbers back to \$20,000.00 which would help balance the budget and even out the mil rate over the two year time period.** **Donald Grinnell stated that there was a lot of discussion over these lines during Budget Committee meetings and reducing these lines by \$10,000.00 would not have a significant impact but would help reduce the mil rate to help those that have lost their jobs due to COVID-19 for 2020 taxes.** **Janet Martucci asked how much of a difference would it make in the taxes for each resident. Thomas Johnston did not have an exact amount of what the mil rate change would be. Tom did say, with those amounts in our budget, the town's budget, is flat from last year to this year. The thought was that if we reduced it would give us a one year dip then next year we have to make the truck payment which will be approximately \$10,000.00; by adding this back into this year's budget it would give us a little bit more of a down payment.** **Chris Packard asked what the amount is in these reserve accounts now and what the cost of the trucks is.** **Thomas Johnston stated that the Fire Truck Replacement account has \$21,200.00, the Plow Truck Reserve account there is \$63,500.00 The article to purchase the trucks will come up later; we're proposing to ask the town to borrow \$110,000.00 and utilize up to \$30,000.00 from the Fire Truck Replacement Fund for a down payment; for the plow truck to borrow \$110,000.00 and utilize up to \$60,000.00 from the Road Maintenance Truck Fund.** **David Martucci, Budget Committee, when we reviewed this, the bottom line was that our budget was essentially flat for municipal services from last year to this year which included the \$30,000.00 for each line David Martucci thinks it's wise to put this money aside, because it won't raise anything more that what we have from last year's budget, he advocates defeating the amendment.** **David Williams, Budget Committee, stated that this is a bare bones budget and there are not many places to cut but with the economic impact that everyone will have he thinks it would be a good idea to pass this amendment.**

Proposed Amendment is defeated 22 no, 14 yes

Motion carries unanimously

Article 34 passes

Article 35: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$28,629.00 from property taxation for Miscellaneous Accounts.

Selectmen 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	1,000.00		
Washington Food Bank	2,000.00		
Mid-Coast Humane Society	1,985.00		
Flags for Veterans Graves and Town Parks	500.00		
Midcoast Conservancy Dues (Damariscotta Lake Watershed)	50.00		
	Sub-total	22,535.00	
Social Agencies and Concerns			
New Hope for Women	750.00		
Waldo Community Action Partners	407.00		
Spectrum Generations	865.00		
Pine Tree Chapter, Red Cross	1500.00		
Penquis Community Action Program	1558.00		
Life Flight of Maine	764.00		
Gary Owen House	250.00		
	Sub-total	6094.00	
			Total
			\$28,629.00

A motion was made and seconded to raise and appropriate \$28,629.00 from property taxation for Miscellaneous Accounts. Deborah Bocko asked what the Library Association covered. Sarah Masters, President of Gibbs Library Association, stated that \$15,000.00 is a small amount of the overall \$60,000.00 library budget. Some services the library gives back to the community are books, audio books, wifi the town uses, and we generally have programs offered to the public, hopefully again soon.

Motion carries unanimously

Article 35 passes.

Article 36: To see if the Town will vote to authorize spending up to \$64,000.00 from the Local Roads Assistance Program (LRAP) for Capital Road Improvement.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize spending up to \$64,000.00 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 authorize spending up to \$200,000 from the Road Maintenance Reserve account for Paving and Capital Road Improvement.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize spending up to \$200,000 from the Road Maintenance Reserve account for Paving and Capital Road Improvement.

Motion carries unanimously

Article 37 passes.

Article 38: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the selectmen to purchase a replacement truck chassis for the Fire Department Tanker #1, and to borrow up to \$110,000.00, and to utilize up to \$30,000.00 from the Fire Truck Replacement Fund, to move the Tank and equipment from the current tanker to the new chassis.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize the selectmen to purchase a replacement truck chassis for the Fire Department Tanker #1, and to borrow up to \$110,000.00 and to utilize up to \$30,000.00 from the Fire Truck Replacement Fund, to move the Tank and equipment from the current tanker to the new chassis.

Motion carries unanimously

Article 38 passes.

Article 39: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the selectmen to purchase a plow truck with a cost not to exceed \$170,000.00, and to borrow up to \$110,000.00, and to utilize up to \$60,000.00 from the Road Maintenance Truck Fund toward this purchase.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize the selectmen to purchase a plow truck with a cost not to exceed \$170,000.00 and to borrow up to \$110,000.00 and to utilize up to \$60,000.00 from the Road Maintenance Truck Fund toward this purchase.

Motion carries unanimously

Article 39 passes.

Article 40: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the selectmen to refinance the Mortgage on the Town Garage, and to borrow an additional \$100,000.00 to make necessary repairs.

Treasurer's Financial Statement, Town of Washington

1. Total Town Indebtedness

<i>a. Total Mortgage – Municipal Garage (4 years remaining)</i>	<i>\$48,631.69</i>
<i>b. Fire Pumper Truck loan (8 years remaining)</i>	<i>\$249,680.77</i>
<i>c. Plow Truck loan (4 years remaining)</i>	<i>\$75,399.90</i>

2. Costs	
a. Town Garage Repair	\$100,000.00
b. Garage Repair Interest (15 year loan @ 2.6%)	\$22,042.66
c. Fire Truck Chassis	\$110,000.00
d. New Chassis Interest (6 year loan @2.4%)	\$9,422.55
e. New Plow Truck	\$110,000.00
f. New Plow Truck Interest (6 year loan @2.4%)	\$9,422.55
	<i>Total Payment</i>
	\$360,887.76

A motion was made and seconded to authorize the selectmen to refinance the Mortgage on the Town Garage, and to borrow an additional \$100,000.00 to make necessary repairs. Jesse Casas asked Thomas Johnston to go over the list of repairs that would be done on the town garage. Thomas Johnston stated when the building was constructed there was no vapor barrier put in the walls and moisture accumulation has deteriorated the exterior sheathing, some of the vinyl is loose; with in-floor heat that vaporizes the moisture and drives it into the walls. The project scope would be to remove the exterior vinyl and sheathing, replace sheathing as necessary, all fiberglass insulation would be removed and spray foam would be applied to act as better insulation and as a moisture barrier in that building. Four drains would be put in the shop area to get the moisture out of the building and adding ventilation as well as overhead heat as we would lose some floor heat and the roof is coming to the point where it should be replaced; a metal roof would be put on. We're not sure what is happening at this point in time as the contractor was scheduled to start in April. Tom proposed the article be passed then we can move forward with this project as necessary. Susan Mendelson asked if they would be putting back the vinyl they take off. Tom said in order to save on expenses the contractor would remove the vinyl put it back on and replace only if broken. Reggie Burns asked if this is because the town cut so many corners when the garage was originally built and now we're paying for it or is it contractor error. Wesley Daniel stated he was involved in the building of the garage along with Donald Grinnell and Kathy Ocean; we did cut some things out of the building but it probably would not have made much difference with all the moisture that goes into the building. The trucks come in and they are all covered in snow to dry which has caused these problems. Either we fix it or let it go and build another building down the road. Donald Grinnell, a Selectman at the time the garage was built, stated they visited other town garages in the area; at that time they were going with radiant heat in the floor because you'd bring the trucks in after plowing to dry, they'd be dry the next morning. If he were to do it again, he wouldn't because the water comes off the truck and evaporates into the exterior walls. In hindsight, it's one of those things you would not do the same way today. We tried to save the town money back then and sometimes you make mistakes. The garage was built in 2008. There was some discussion clarifying the work to be done regarding ventilation and heat. Chris Packard asked if the new plan is engineered and stamped so you know that the moisture will be taken out of the building or are we assuming that the ventilation and air heat will remove enough to save the building. Tom stated that the changes are not engineered and stamped, we hired a civil engineer to do a building inspection and took the recommendations and spoke with two different contractors and worked with one of them to set up a final plan. The civil engineer looked at it and thought it would be very effective rather than spending another \$10,000.00 – \$15,000.00 to put a stamp on it. Todd Bennett stated that if the civil engineer gives you a written recommendation it has to be stamped because this is a municipality. Zelma Williams asked if the town insurance had been approached about this. Wesley Daniel stated it had and it's not covered because there is no real proof on how it happened. Deborah Bocko asked if this is a legal issue. Tom stated that it is the right of the voters to request a stamp. We would put the project on hold as we don't have an article or funds for the engineer stamp. *Todd Bennett made the amendment that we will approve this \$100,000.00 only if any design for heating and ventilation is done by and approved by a certified engineer. Amendment seconded.* Mike Mayo stated now the discussion is only about the proposed amendment. Joan Hayward stated that if this amendment passes it will increase the amount of money that would have to be spent, to over \$100,000.00. She's not saying it's a bad idea just that the cost will go up. There was continued discussion regarding the expense of an engineer stamp. Susan Mendleson wondered if the HVAC firm might have a person on staff who can sign off/certify the job for less money and as part of the contract. Jesse Casas asked if the cost of the engineer stamp could come out of the \$100,000.00, we don't want to go through this again in 12 years as was mentioned before. Donald Grinnell clarified that you can't spend municipal money unless it's certified by an engineer up to \$150,000.00 (that may have changed over the years). The other suggestion is perhaps to satisfy everyone present to

get it engineered, drop the part of a metal roof of the project to keep the cost of the engineer stamp within the \$100,000.00. Pam Packard clarified that the amendment is meant to hold someone accountable so that if there is a problem down the line we have someone to go back to versus looking at the Selectmen asking and why they recommended something/one. Pam is for the repairs rather than letting it fall down a couple of years from now but someone recommending something so drastic should be held accountable. *Todd Bennett restated his proposed amendment: We would approve the \$100,000.00 town garage repair portion of this only under the stipulation that the improvements to the HVAC part of this get certified or approved by a licensed professional.* Kate Grinnell made a comment, she pulled up on her phone, on the Maine State Legislature Statute section 1254 Public Works under Title 32 Professions and Occupations “Use of license professional engineer is not required. Except as provided in subsection 2, any department of this State or any of its political subdivisions or any county, city, town, township or plantation may engage in construction of any public work involving professional engineering without procuring the services of a licensed professional engineer, as long as the contemplated expenditure for the completed project does not exceed \$100,000.00 and the work, both as performed and as completed, does not create an undue risk to public safety or welfare”. Walter Metcalf stated he thinks this is an administrative exercise and the selectmen understand and we should move this along instead of ‘beating it to death’. Steven Ocean stated he was at the meeting with the contractor and he thinks the amendment should go through so we don’t go through this again. If it costs more money they we could go to special town meeting.

Proposed Amendment passes with little opposition

Motion carries unanimously

Article 40 passes as amended.

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. Todd Bennett asked that the wording be changed and put into terms that people can understand and what does it mean to the tax payers of the town. Wesley Daniel stated it authorizes the selectmen to go over the tax levy. The article is put in ‘just in case’. Mike Mayo stated this is boiler plate article in all town warrants.

Motion carries unanimously

Article 41 passes.

Given under our hands on this 24th day of June, 2020:

Wesley F. Daniel
Chairman, Board of Selectmen

Berkley Linscott
Selectman

Thomas N. Johnston
Selectman

Attest:
Mary Anderson, Town Clerk