

TOWN OF RICHMOND
2021 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Sagadahoc, ss.

State of Maine

TO: James Donnell, Constable of the Town of Richmond

Greetings:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Richmond, in said county and State, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the **Richmond Highway Garage, 19 High Street** in said town, on **Tuesday, June 8, 2021 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm**, then and there to act upon **Articles 1-29**.

ARTICLE 1: To elect a Moderator, by secret ballot, who will preside at said meeting.

ARTICLE 2: To elect by secret ballot the following officials:

- A. Two (2) Selectmen/Assessors/Overseers of the Poor for three (3) year terms.
- B. One (1) RSU #2 member for a three (3) year term.
- C. Two (2) Budget Committee member for a three (3) year term.
- D. One (1) Richmond Utilities District member for a three (3) year term.

To vote by secret ballot on the following referendum questions:

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$783,097 for the **Administrative, Benefits, Boards & Committees, CEO, General Assistance, Public Service Agencies, Professional Services, Insurance, Intergovernmental and Debt Services** Accounts (FY 2020-2021: \$757,796).

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommendation: Approval

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate \$53,300 from unassigned fund balance for the **Capital Outlay** Account (FY 2020-2021: \$38,250 from unassigned fund balance).

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommendation: Approval

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate \$51,680 from unassigned fund balance for the **Fire Department EMS Pilot Program** Account (FY 2020-2021: \$0).

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommendation: Approval

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$495,114 for the **Police Department Operations, Fire/EMS, and Public Safety** Accounts (FY 2020-2021: \$518,507).

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommendation: Approval

- ARTICLE 7: ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$442,321 for the **Public Works Operations, Parks & Cemeteries, Solid Waste and Town Fuel** Accounts (FY 2020-2021: \$419,273).
Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommendation: Approval
- ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to transfer and appropriate \$355,000 from unassigned fund balance to be placed in the **Town Building Repair and Maintenance Reserve, and Public Works Reserve** Accounts (FY 2020-2021: \$335,000).
Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommendation: Approval
- ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$90,000 and to transfer and appropriate \$60,000 from unassigned fund balance for a total appropriation of \$150,000, to be placed in the **Town Vehicle Reserve** Account (FY 2020-2021: \$60,000 from unassigned Fund Balance \$60,000).
Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommendation: Approval
- ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 for the **Catch Basin Reserve** Account (FY 2020-2021: \$0).
Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommendation: Approval
- ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$112,828 for the **Senior Center, Recreation and Public Library** Accounts (FY 2020-2021: \$98,670).
Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommendation: Approval
- ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 for the support of the Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed Mil-Foiler Program (FY 2020-2021: \$5,000).
Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommendation: Approval
- ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,250 for the support of maintenance of the parking lot owned by American Legion Emerson-Lane Post #132, whose related building serves as a Town Emergency Shelter pursuant to the Town's Emergency Action Plan (FY 2020-2021: \$1,250).
Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommendation: Approval
- ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote (a) to authorize the Selectboard to set at a later date the amount of unassigned fund balance, not to exceed \$100,000, to be used to reduce the property tax commitment for FY 2021-2022, and (b) to appropriate said amount set by the Selectboard.
Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommendation: Approval
- ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate fifty-percent (50%) of the money received from the State of Maine for snowmobile registrations to the Richmond Sno-Rovers Club

for the maintenance of their system or network of snowmobile trails, on the condition that those trails be open to the public for snowmobile purposes at no charge in the snow season, and to authorize the Selectboard to enter into an agreement with the Club under such terms and conditions as it deems advisable for that purpose.

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommendation: Approval

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$760,825 from the Estimated Revenues Account (Non-Property Tax Revenue) to be applied to reduce the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 tax commitment.

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommendation: Approval

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to fix the date when property taxes become due and payable, with the first payment being due and payable on November 10, 2021; and the second payment being due and payable on May 10, 2022; and to instruct the Tax Collector to charge interest at 6% per annum on all taxes unpaid after said date(s).

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to set the rate of 2% interest per annum on abated taxes and to authorize such interest paid or abatements granted to be appropriated from overlay funds then, if necessary, from unassigned fund balance.

[Note: 36 M.R.S. § 506-A provides the rate of interest may not exceed the rate set for delinquent taxes, nor be less than that rate reduced by 4%]

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes not yet committed, with no interest to accrue on any excess paid over the amount finally committed.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to offer a Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Tax Club Plan to taxpayers who enroll no later than July 31, 2021; who pay the total amount of FY 2021-2022 taxes by monthly payments from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022; who abide by the requirements of said plan as established by the Selectboard; who shall receive from the Town, in return for such payments, full credit for such taxes paid without incurring any charge of interest.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to apply for State, federal (including Community Development Block Grants) and other grants on behalf of the Town for purposes deemed by the Selectboard to be in the best interests of the Town; to accept such grants, including, when necessary, the authority to sign contracts and related documents and to accept conditions of approval; and to appropriate such grant funds for any purpose for which the Town has appropriated funds in Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to retain, sell or dispose of, by a means and upon such terms and conditions as the Selectboard deems advisable, any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon, 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 effect the sale of such property, or, if the property is prior-owner occupied residential property, to convey the property to the prior owner upon payment in full of all taxes, interest and charges incurred by the Town within 90 days of notice to the prior owner of the repurchase opportunity; provided, however, that the Selectboard shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. § 943-C for qualifying homestead property if it chooses to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s).

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to waive the foreclosure of a tax lien mortgage by recording a waiver of foreclosure at the Registry of Deeds in which the tax lien certificate is recorded prior to expiration of the right of redemption pursuant to 36 M.R.S. § 944 upon a finding by the Selectboard that ownership of the property that is subject to the tax lien mortgage would be contrary to the Town's best interests.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to sell or otherwise dispose of Town-owned personal property deemed by the Selectboard to be obsolete on such terms and conditions as it deems advisable.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to accept or reject donations of personal property and/or to accept or reject gifts of money to the various accounts of the Town for the ensuing year and to appropriate those monies donated for specific purposes.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to make final determinations, after notice and hearing, regarding the winter closing of roads in accordance with 23 M.R.S. § 2953(3) and final determinations, after notice and hearing, to annul, alter or modify such orders in accordance with 23 M.R.S. § 2953(4).

ARTICLE 27: Shall an ordinance entitled "2021 Amendments to the Town of Richmond Land Use Ordinance" and "Official Town Zoning Map" be enacted?
(The proposed map and ordinance are available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk's Office and will be available at the Town Meeting.)

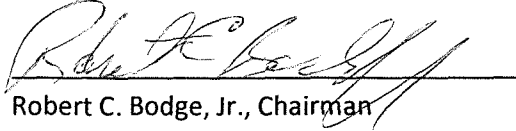
ARTICLE 28: Shall an ordinance entitled "2021 Food Sovereignty Ordinance" be enacted?
(The proposed ordinance is available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk's Office and will be available at the Town Meeting.)

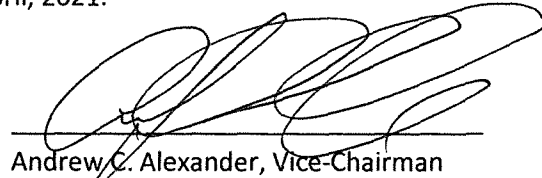
ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to withdraw from Regional School Unit #2 as of July 1, 2022 as separate municipal school unit comprised solely of the Town of Richmond.

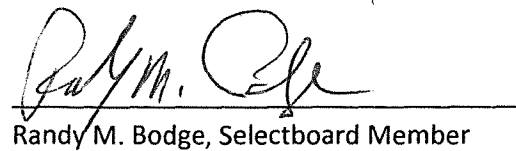
(The proposed Withdrawal Agreement is available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk's Office and will be available at the Town Meeting.)

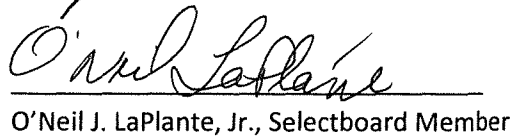
GIVEN UNTO OUR HANDS THIS 21st th day of April, 2021.

Selectboard, Richmond, Maine


Robert C. Bodge, Jr., Chairman


Andrew C. Alexander, Vice-Chairman


Randy M. Bodge, Selectboard Member



O'Neil J. LaPlante, Jr., Selectboard Member


David Thompson, Selectboard Member

For purposes of **voter registration**, the Town Clerk, serving as Registrar of Voters, has office hours at the Town Office as follows: Monday through Thursday from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm. Please leave a message at the Town Office if other arrangements are required for registration.

If any registered voter of Richmond is **hearing-impaired** and requires the services of someone to sign the meeting in order to allow the voter full participation, please contact the Town Manager as soon as possible so arrangements can be made.

A True copy of the Warrant,

Attest: 
Sharon Woodward, Town Clerk
Town of Richmond, Maine