

FINAL WARRANT

WARRANT FOR SECRET BALLOT TOWN MEETING

To **Heather Wyman**, a Resident of the Town of Appleton, County of Knox, State of Maine:

Greetings: In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Appleton, in said county, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at **the Appleton Fire Station, 2899 Sennebec Road, in said town, on Tuesday, June 14, 2022, from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.** to vote upon the following articles:

(Articles 2-35 will be voted on by SECRET BALLOT)

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

ARTICLE 2: To elect all necessary Town Officials.

ARTICLE 3: Do you favor approving the Appleton Village School (AVS) budget for the upcoming school year that was adopted at the latest AVS budget meeting and that includes locally raised funds that exceed the local contribution as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act?

(A yes vote allows additional funds to be raised for K-8 public education; a no vote means additional funds cannot be raised for K-8 education. These appropriations appear as a separate ballot.)

ARTICLE 4: Shall the Town accept the categories of funds listed below, as provided by Maine State Legislature, to be received in FY23? (Dollar amounts listed are estimated amounts to be received in FY23.)

a. Maine State Revenue Sharing	\$ 337,700
b. Local Road Assistance	45,000
c. State Aid to Education	Unknown
d. Emergency Management Agency Funds	Unknown
e. Snowmobile Registration Refund	\$ 330
f. Tree Growth Reimbursement	\$ 10,500
g. General Assistance Reimbursement	Unknown
h. Veterans Exemption Reimbursement	\$ 2,000
i. Homestead Exemption Reimbursement	\$188,000
j. Excise Tax	\$295,000
k. Other Revenues*	\$ 18,000

(*Other Revenues include building permits, clerk fees, and other fees. Other Fees does not include Insurance & Bonds, Workers' Compensation Refunds, Animal Control Fines, and FEMA reimbursement, which are credited to and expended from the appropriate named accounts.)

TOTAL (known amounts) \$896,530

Article 5: Shall the Town appropriate all funds collected in **Article 4** (estimated to be \$896,530) to the FY23 fiscal year budget?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 6: Shall the Town carry forward from FY22 into FY23 all unexpended balances in Planning Board, Wentworth Savings, Comprehensive Plan, Fire Department Building and Utilities, Fire Department Donations, Fire Department King Grant, Emergency Management Agency, Road Maintenance, Paving, Town Land Conservation, Cemeteries, and Municipal Building Renovations?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town appropriate from Undesignated Funds the funds needed to fulfill the Town's obligations for FY23 for General Assistance, Unemployment, and Maintain Old Landfill?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 8: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to expend such other sums as may be received from Federal and State grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for town purposes, provided that such grants, programs, or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town pay Select Board Members \$3,000 each and the Chair an additional \$2,500 in FY23?

(Pay is appropriated from the Town Officials Budget Line.)

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 10: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to appoint and set compensation of all other necessary officials, or act thereon?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 11: Shall the Town pay the MAINE DOT 2022 labor reimbursement and private equipment rental rates, and bid, contract, or rental prices, for its road and bridges during FY23?

ARTICLE 12: Shall the Town appropriate all State Highway Funds received from the local Roads Assistance Program (LRAP) this fiscal year (estimated to be \$45,000) for the purpose of maintenance paving of Town roads?

ARTICLE 13: Shall the Town raise and appropriate \$293,738 for GENERAL GOVERNMENT for FY23?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 14: Shall the Town raise and appropriate \$265,885 for PROTECTION AND SAFETY for FY23?

**SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS**

ARTICLE 15: Shall the Town raise and appropriate \$566,828 for HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES for FY23?

**SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS**

ARTICLE 16: Shall the Town raise and appropriate \$42,200 for SANITATION for FY23?

**SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS**

ARTICLE 17: Shall the Town raise and appropriate \$34,670 for COMMUNITY for FY23?

**SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS**

ARTICLE 18: Shall the Town raise and appropriate \$7,144 for PROVIDER AGENCIES for FY23?

**SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS
BUDGET COMMITTEE REJECTS**

ARTICLE 19: Shall the Town appropriate \$200,000 from Undesignated Funds to reduce the property tax assessment?

**SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS**

ARTICLE 20: Shall the Town allow a discount of 2% on all taxes paid in full prior to or within one month (30 days) after the commitment of the list to the Tax Collector, except Excise Taxes, and authorize the Select Board to take the necessary sum from Undesignated Funds for this purpose? (The budgeted amount will be \$40,000.)

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 21: Shall the Town establish that taxes shall be due and payable when billed; and, that interest at a rate of 4% per annum, the maximum by State law, be charged on all taxes unpaid after the last day of November 2022?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 22: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to procure a temporary loan(s) in anticipation of taxes, for payment of obligations of the Town; such loans(s) to be paid during the current fiscal year by taxation?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 23: Shall the Town allow the Select Board to take from Undesignated Funds the necessary amount of money to cover the interest on loans they have been authorized to procure in anticipation of taxes?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 24: Shall the Town increase the property tax levy limit of \$319,520 established for Appleton 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 the property tax levy limit?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 25: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to enter into up to three-year agreements for the following:

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

Ambulance Services, Audit Services, Assessing Services, Town Property & Cemetery Mowing, Tax Maps

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 26: Shall the Town Forest and Conservation Reserve Fund, established to fund maintaining town forests and tax-acquired property and currently containing \$12,131.02, be augmented to include Town Parks, becoming the Town Forests, Conservation, and Parks Reserve Fund?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 27: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to establish a Revaluation Reserve Fund?

Select Board Note: Property sales exceeding assessed value in 2022 suggest the future need for a revaluation. The Town Assessor's Agent has recommended the Town begin to plan for revaluation, which can cost as much as \$130,000. Creating a Revaluation Reserve allows the town to plan for the expense, as opposed to raising all at once. Amounts will be appropriated during town meetings.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 28: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to sell, via a licensed broker, Map 8 Lot 15, half the town-owned land known collectively as the Grover McLaughlin Lot, containing a total of 17 acres, with sale proceeds going to Revaluation Reserve Fund, if approved, or into Undesignated Fund Balance if a Revaluation Reserve Fund is not approved?

Select Board Note: The land currently does not yield tax revenue; timber harvest in the nearby Midcoast Lot within the past 5 years yielded \$2,700 for the Town and this warrant asks permission to harvest prior to sale. The anticipated asking price of each lot is \$55,000; if a \$200,000 home was built, annual tax assessment for land and building is estimated to begin at \$3,000 per lot created. This lot has 800 feet of road frontage, making it possible to become as many as five individual lots with road frontage of 150 feet per lot, per the town's Building Ordinance. If approved by voters, it is the Board's intention a committee will be formed to review potential multiple lots and the sale will ultimately help defray the cost of a revaluation, which the Town last completed more than 15 years ago.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 29: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to harvest timber on town-owned land known as the Grover McLaughlin Lot (Map 8, Lot 5 and Map 8, Lot 15)?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 30: Shall the Town authorize property tax commitment book information to be placed on the town website? This article to remain in effect until modified or repealed by the votes at a town meeting.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 31: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to expend \$50,000 from the Town's Capital Reserve Account for the purpose of painting the exteriors of the Appleton Town Office, as well as completing deferred maintenance to the exterior of the Town Office prior to painting?

Select Board Note: The Capital Reserve Account contains \$112,968.51; the presence of lead paint contributes to the greater cost of this expense.)

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 32: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to use the proceeds of any payment on insurance claims, for damage occurring to Town property in the fiscal year 2023, to be allocated to the municipal department whose goods or equipment were damaged, and appropriate any such insurance payment to repair or replace the damaged goods or equipment or act thereon.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 33: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to expend from the Cemetery Reserve Fund, not to exceed \$6,000, for the purpose of contracted tree removal and general upkeep in town cemeteries?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 34. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to sell or otherwise dispose of equipment and Town property with a value less than \$10,000.00 per item after appraisal for FY23 or act thereon?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 35: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to convene the Annual Town Meeting as a Secret Ballot Referendum Vote, as occurred in 2021 and 2022, to ensure residents can vote on the annual town warrant from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. by secret ballot? This vote will remain in effect until it is overturned by another town meeting vote.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 36: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to spend \$12,000 from Undesignated Fund Balance to hire a consultant to assess areas for increased efficiencies and cost-sharing opportunities to present to Municipal Officers?

Select Board Note: This consultant would review efficiencies associated with town administration, ambulance service.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 37: Shall the Town adopt the Amended Site Plan Review Ordinance, as amended and approved by the Town of Appleton Planning Board in March 2022?

ARTICLE 38: Shall the Town authorize the board to establish the Appleton Budget Committee with 5 members, instead of the current 9, each with a three-year term?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

Article 39: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to explore an interlocal agreement for Emergency Medical Services?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS

ARTICLE 40: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to use Overlay to be used for tax abatements?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS


ARTICLE 41: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to harvest timber on the town-owned Map 3, Lot 15, known as the Lamont Lot on Collinstown Road?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS


Given under our hands at Appleton, Maine this 12th day of April, AD 2022.

Appleton Select Board:

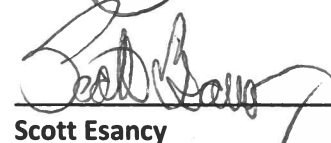
Lorie Costigan, chair



Peter Beckett, vice chair



Marci Moody Blakely



Scott Esancy

Charles Garrigan