

TOWN OF VASSALBORO MAINE

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT TOWN OF VASSALBORO, MAINE JUNE 3-11, 2019

P.O. BOX 129
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STATE OF MAINE

KENNEBEC COUNTY

To: Mark Brown, a resident of the Town of Vassalboro

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Vassalboro in said Kennebec County, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Vassalboro Community School on Monday, June 3rd, 2019, at 6:30 in the evening to elect a moderator to preside at said meeting, then and there to act on Articles 1 through 63, all of said articles being set out below to wit: and further to warn said voters to meet at the Town Office building in said Town on Tuesday, the 11th day of June 2019, then and there to act on Articles numbered 64 to 66. The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Article 1: To choose a **Moderator** to preside at said Meeting, and to pay a sum not to exceed \$200.00 for his/her services.

Article 2: To elect from the floor, under the rules of this meeting, five (5) members of the **Budget Committee** to serve two year terms.

Terms Expire in 2019:

William Browne **Donald Breton**
Richard Phippen **Peggy Schaffer**
Philip Landry

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to fix the **due dates of taxes** as follows, and to set the rate of interest at the prevailing allowable State rate: 9.00%. Interest will begin to accrue 7 days after the due date.

One-fourth of taxes due on 09-23-19
One-fourth of taxes due on 11-25-19
One-fourth of taxes due on 02-24-20
One-fourth of taxes due on 04-27-20

Selectmen Recommend: Approval

REVENUES

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to use the following **anticipated revenue** amounts and from the sources named to reduce the 2019-2020 tax commitment:

Excise Tax	\$ 825,000
Agent Fees	14,500
Snowmobile agent fees	2,750
Boat Excise Tax	7,500
Interest/Penalties	40,000
State Revenue Sharing	200,000
State Road Assistance	65,250
Tree Growth Reimbursement	15,250
Veterans Exemption	3,000
Miscellaneous	5,000
Permit Fees	10,000
Solid Waste/Recycling	40,000
Franchise Fee/Cable Fees	13,000
Cemetery Fund Interest	4,000
Clerk Fees	10,000
FEMA Disaster Reimb.	17,400
Surplus	<u>150,000</u>
TOTAL REVENUES:	\$1,422,650

Selectmen Recommend: \$1,422,650
 Budget Committee recommends: \$1,422,650

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$463,134 for **Administration**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$463,134
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$463,134

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$33,200 for **Assessment Costs**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$33,200
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$33,200

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$56,500 for **Capital Improvements or Reserves** as follows:

Plow Truck Reserve:	\$50,000
Standby Generator for PW garage	<u>6,500</u>
TOTAL	\$56,500

Selectmen Recommend: \$56,500
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$56,500

PUBLIC WORKS

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$556,770 for the **Public Works Department**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$556,770
Budget Committee Recommends: \$556,770

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$390,062 for **paving work** to allow the Town to pave all or portions of the following roads: Nelson Road and the Whitehouse Road; and for **road striping and paved road maintenance** and if any of said sums remain, the Selectmen at their discretion could do additional paving.

Selectmen Recommend: \$390,062
Budget Committee Recommends: \$390,062

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$34,035 to **repair the 1991 Dresser Road Grader**, and if any amount remains after repairs are complete, to use the remaining funds to **pave a portion of the Public Works Garage driveway**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$34,035
Budget Committee Recommends: \$34,035

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$320,060 for the cost of operating the Town's **Solid Waste Disposal and Recycling Facility**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$320,060
Budget Committee Recommends: \$320,060

PUBLIC SAFETY

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$85,213 for the **Public Safety Department** that includes the Police, Animal Control, and Dispatch expenses.

Selectmen Recommend: \$85,213
Budget Committee Recommends: \$85,213

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,750 for the cost of operating the **Vassalboro First Responder Service**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$12,750
Budget Committee Recommends: \$12,750

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum not to exceed \$5,000 from SURPLUS to be used as local match dollars for new First Responder Service equipment. These funds will be expended only in the event of a **First Responder Service grant award**.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$66,100 for the **Fire Department**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$66,100
Budget Committee Recommends: \$66,100

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum not to exceed \$45,000 from SURPLUS to be used as local match dollars for new Fire Department equipment. These funds will be expended only in the event of a **Fire Department grant award**.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$63,625 for lease payment number four of five for the **2017 E-One Pumper Fire Truck**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$63,625
Budget Committee Recommends: \$63,625

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,500 for **fire hydrant rental**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$20,500
Budget Committee Recommends: \$20,500

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,500 for **Street Lights**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$18,500
Budget Committee Recommends: \$18,500

SPECIAL ARTICLES AND TOWN POLICY

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen on behalf of the Town to **dispose of any real estate** acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they may deem advisable, except for property tax-acquired from certain elderly, low-income taxpayers who qualify for the special sale process required pursuant to 36 M.R.S. Section 943-C.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen or their designee to submit **grant applications for State of Maine, Federal Government, or any other duly authorized authority funding** and if said program is approved, authorize the municipal officers to accept said grant funds, to make such assurances, assume such responsibilities, and exercise such authority as necessary and reasonable to implement such program, and to disburse such funds for the purpose granted.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen or their designee to apply for, on behalf of the Town, a **Federal Emergency Management Agency Hazardous Mitigation grant application** or any other grant opportunity, for a new generator to power all or part of the Vassalboro Community School in the event of a power outage, and if said program is approved, to further authorize the Selectmen to expend funds from the town's general fund as needed to pay for the entire project while awaiting state reimbursement. Furthermore, if such grant is received, the town authorizes and appropriates the sum not to exceed \$28,000 from SURPLUS to be used as local match dollars for this purpose and to purchase related items not covered by the grant such as the cement installation pad and wiring of the building. These funds will be expended only in the event of a grant award for the generator, and other related expenses.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to establish an **Accrued Comp Payout Fund** in the amount of \$35,000 to be appropriated from SURPLUS and used in the event that it is needed to pay earned benefits to Town staff upon separation from employment. Once established, the fund will be replenished from SURPLUS as needed at the end of each fiscal year to maintain a balance of \$35,000, or not to exceed the accrued comp total liability.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 24: To see if the voters of the Town of Vassalboro will vote to authorize the Vassalboro Select Board to negotiate and to enter into a long-term, multi-year lease or a power purchase agreement with a private company or companies to **install a solar array**, and associated equipment, or like utility(ies), on land owned by the Town upon such terms and conditions as the Board determines to be in the best interests of the Town provided the agreement yields annual net electrical cost savings to the Town and incorporates the option for a lease buyout. The array output should be sufficient, at a minimum, to cover the annual electric demand of the Town Office, both fire stations, the Library, and the Vassalboro Historical Society at the former East Vassalboro School.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to sell or trade the 2014 Dodge Ram 5500 truck with plow and sander and to **purchase a new truck, plow and sander** at a cost not to exceed \$122,450 to be funded from the following sources:

- \$ 75,000 from Public Works Truck Reserves
- \$ 9,450 from taxation appropriation in FY 2019-20
- \$ 38,000 from Proceeds from the sale or trade of the 2014 Ram Truck
- \$122,450 Total cost of new truck with plow and sander

Selectmen Recommend: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to sell the 2007 Chevy Impala Cruiser and to **issue bonds, a lease agreement**, or other types of indebtedness in the name of the Town under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable to purchase a **replacement Cruiser and related equipment**, the purchase price of which is not to exceed \$38,000 with an annual payment for a period of up to three years, and to raise and appropriate the annual estimated payment of \$13,000 the first year and \$13,236.15 the following two years, (which agreement includes interest currently estimated at 3.89%).

Treasurer’s Financial Statement - Town of Vassalboro, Maine

1.	Total Town Indebtedness as of 6/30/18	
a.	Bonds/Leases outstanding and unpaid:	\$440,884
b.	Bonds authorized and unissued:	\$ -0-
c.	Bonds/lease to be issued if this question is approved:	<u>\$ 38,000</u>
	TOTAL	<u>\$478,884</u>

2. **Costs**

At an estimated maximum interest rate of 3.89%, the estimated costs of this bond issue will be:

Three years

a.	Principal	\$38,000.00
b.	Interest	\$ 1,472.29
	TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	\$39,472.29

3. **Validity**

The validity of the Bonds and of the voters’ ratification of the bonds may not be affected by any errors in the above estimates. If the actual amount of the total debt service for the bond issue varies from the estimate, the ratification of the electors is nevertheless conclusive and the validity of the bond issue is not affected by reason of the variance.

Mary S. Sabins, Treasurer Town of Vassalboro

Selectmen Recommend: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 and authorize the Selectmen to accept and expend monetary gifts and donations of labor, materials and equipment for **improvements to Soldiers Memorial Park** located near and around the Civil War Monument on Route #32; and to authorize the Selectmen to rededicate the Park to Vassalboro Veterans for the Town's 250th Anniversary in 2021.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate, execute, deliver and/or accept all legal instruments necessary to accept a deed from the Riverside Hose Company for the **Riverside Fire Station property** depicted on the Town's tax map as Map 1, Lot 69.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 29: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter into an agreement with a contracted company to install a **standing seam metal roof on the Riverside Fires Station**; to raise and appropriate the amount of \$17,500 and to expend all the funds in the existing Metal Roof Reserve with a current balance of \$12,739.57 as of 3/31/19 to accomplish such project.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 30: To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectmen or their designee **to approve modifications to the Outlet Dam** for the purpose of restoring fish passage into and out of China Lake, and to make such assurances, assume such responsibilities, execute such agreements and exercise such authority as necessary and reasonable for the implementation of the project.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval

Article 31: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate from **overlay** those sums which it is obligated to pay for approved tax abatements including any interest due thereon.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval

Article 32: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen, for the fiscal year 2019-2020, to **transfer funds** between appropriation accounts so long as the grand total of all appropriations is not exceeded. Any such transfers to be approved only at a properly called public meeting of the Selectmen and Budget Committee.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval

Article 33: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers under Maine statutes, Chapter 12 Section 6131 and amendments thereto, to promulgate such regulations compatible with the General Laws of the State to govern the time and manner in which **river herring (alewives)** shall be taken therein for the calendar year 2020.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval

Article 34: To see if the Town will authorize the Municipal Officers to sell surplus **river herring (alewives)** for one or more years, or take any action relative to the same.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 35: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the revenues received in FY2019-20 from the Natural Gas Pipeline Municipal Development and Tax Increment Financing District into a fund designated as the **Development Program Fund** to be used for projects, loans and/or grants for economic development within the Town as outlined in the Development Program for the District to be expended on such projects at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 36: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to **dispose of Town owned property** with a value of \$10,000 or less, under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 37: To see if the Town will vote to authorize an amount not to exceed \$15,000 from SURPLUS to serve as a **contingency fund** to be spent by the Selectmen in the event of an emergency and to avoid overdrafts.

Selectmen Recommend: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

LIBRARY

Article 38: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$33,929 for the Town's share of the **Library's** budget.

Selectmen Recommend: \$33,929
Budget Committee Recommends: \$33,929

HEALTH AND WELFARE/OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Article 39: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for **General Assistance** and to authorize the Selectmen to expend any and all reimbursement funds received from the State.

Selectmen Recommend: \$3,000
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$3,000

Article 40: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the fiscal year 2019-2020 budget for the following purposes, or act thereon:

	Agency Request	Selectmen Recommend	Budget Comm. Recommends
a. Vassalboro Food Station	2,000	2,000	2,000
b. Hospice of Waterville	1,600	1,600	1,600
c. Family Violence Project	4,925	4,925	4,925
d. KV Behavioral Health	3,500	3,500	3,500
e. Spectrum Generations	1,160	1,000	1,000
f. Sexual Assault Crisis	1,519	1,417	1,417
g. Literacy Vols. – Waterville	500	500	500
h. Kennebec Land Trust	100	-0-	-0-
i. Town Line Newspaper	3,000	-0-	-0-
j. FAVOR	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
TOTALS:	\$19,304	\$15,942	\$15,942

RECREATION

Article 41: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,730 for the **Recreation Department**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$15,730
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$15,730

Article 42: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 for the **Kennebec Trail Riders Snowmobile Club** for the maintenance of snowmobile trails with the understanding that such trails will be open for the use of snowmobiles during snowmobile season.

Selectmen Recommend: \$1,500
 Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,500

MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS AND REQUESTS

Article 43: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for the support of the **Vassalboro Historical Society** to assist this organization with the maintenance of the former East Vassalboro school building.

Selectmen Recommend: \$2,500
Budget Committee Recommends: \$2,500

Article 44: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,000 for the Town's share in the **Maintenance of Cemeteries and Public Grounds and for Memorial Day expenses.**

Selectmen Recommend: \$32,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$32,000

Article 45: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the necessary sum to cover the assessment from **Kennebec County Government** (currently estimated at \$331,435).

Selectmen Recommend: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 46: To see if the Town will vote to take from Alewife Reserves the sum of \$14,000 for the support of the **China Region Lakes Alliance.**

Selectmen Recommend: \$7,500
Budget Committee Recommends: \$7,500

Article 47: To see if the Town will vote to take from Alewife Reserves the sum of \$47,500 for the support of the **Alewife Restoration Initiative.**

Selectmen Recommend: \$47,500
Budget Committee Recommends: \$47,500

Article 48: To see if the Town will vote to increase the **property tax levy limit** of \$626,198.54 established for the Town of Vassalboro 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 property tax levy limit. (Written ballot)

**SCHOOL BUDGET ARTICLES TO APPROPRIATE MONIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR
ARTICLES PURSUANT TO 20-A M.R.S.A. SECTION 1485**

Article 49: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$4,248,025.27 for **Regular Instruction.**

School Committee Recommends: \$4,248,025.27
Budget Committee Recommends: \$4,248,025.27

Article 50: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$1,451,449.97 for **Special Education**.

School Committee Recommends: \$1,451,449.97
Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,451,449.97

Article 51: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$17,941.00 for **Career and Technical Education**.

School Committee Recommends: \$17,941.00
Budget Committee Recommends: \$17,941.00

Article 52: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$60,231.37 for **Other Instruction**.

School Committee Recommends: \$60,231.37
Budget Committee Recommends: \$60,231.37

Article 53: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$337,562.42 for **Student and Staff Support**.

School Committee Recommends: \$337,562.42
Budget Committee Recommends: \$337,562.42

Article 54: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$155,663.18 for **System Administration**.

School Committee Recommends: \$155,663.18
Budget Committee Recommends: \$155,663.18

Article 55: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$356,049.89 for **School Administration**.

School Committee Recommends: \$356,049.89
Budget Committee Recommends: \$356,049.89

Article 56: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$541,730.82 for **Transportation and Buses**.

School Committee Recommends: \$541,730.82
Budget Committee Recommends: \$541,730.82

Article 57: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend the sum of \$535,254.31 for **Facilities Maintenance**.

School Committee Recommends: \$535,254.31
Budget Committee Recommends: \$535,254.31

Article 58: To see what sum the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend for **Debt Service and Other Commitments.**

School Committee Recommends: \$.00

Budget Committee Recommends: \$.00

Article 59: To see what sum the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend for **All Other Expenditures.**

School Committee Recommends: \$.00

Budget Committee Recommends: \$.00

ARTICLES PURSUANT TO 20-A, M.R.S.A. Section 15690

Article 60: To see what sum the municipality will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act (Recommend \$6,491,910.14) and to see what sum the municipality will raise as the municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.

Statutory Recommendation \$2,601,990.00

School Committee Recommendation: \$2,601,990.00

Budget Committee Recommendation: \$2,601,990.00

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

Article 61: To see what sum the municipality will vote to raise and appropriate in additional local funds for school purposes under Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, §15690.

School Committee Recommends: \$1,069,498.09 for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services model by \$1,069,498.09: costs for special education, salaries and benefits, and tuition.

Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,069,498.09

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

Article 62: To see what sum the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020 from the school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools.

School Committee Recommends: \$7,703,908.23
Budget Committee Recommends: \$7,703,908.23

Article 63: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend such other sums as may be received from federal or state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school purposes provided that such grants, programs or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated.

School Committee Recommends: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

The following articles will be decided by secret ballot election. The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., June 11th, 2019 at the Town Office.

Article 64: Do you favor approving the Vassalboro Community School's budget for the upcoming school year that was adopted at the June 3, 2019 Annual Town Meeting?

Article 65: Do you wish to continue the budget validation referendum process for the Vassalboro Public Schools for an additional three years?


Informational Note:


A "YES" vote will require Vassalboro Public Schools to continue to conduct a referendum to validate its annual school budget for the next three years.

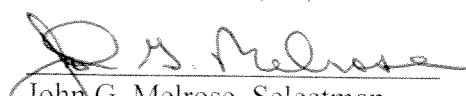
A "NO" vote will discontinue the budget validation referendum for at least three years and provide instead that the annual school budget shall be finally adopted at a meeting of the voters of the Town of Vassalboro.

Article 66: To elect all necessary municipal officers/officials by secret ballot.

Given unto our hands this 2nd day of May 2019, AD


Lauchlin W. Titus, Chairman


Robert C. Browne, Jr., Selectman


John G. Melrose, Selectman

A true copy. Attest:  Town Clerk of Vassalboro