

**TOWN OF WOODLAND
SCHOOL BUDGET AND OPEN TOWN MEETING WARRANT
STATE OF MAINE-COUNTY OF AROOSTOOK
Tuesday, July 9, 2024**

To: Theodore St. Pierre, Resident of the Town of Woodland, in the County of Aroostook, State of Maine.

GREETING:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Woodland in said county and state, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the WOODLAND TOWN GARAGE in said Town on TUESDAY, the NINTH (9th) day of JULY 2024 A.D., at SIX THIRTY O'CLOCK in the forenoon (6:30 P.M.), then and there to act upon the following articles:

ARTICLE 1

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

(School) ARTICLE 2

To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for **Regular Instruction**.

LAST year - \$1,516,502.32

School Board Recommends: \$1,391,473.00

ARTICLE 3

To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for **Special Education**.

LAST year - \$330,215.94

School Board Recommends: \$387,430.00

ARTICLE 4

To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for **Career and Technical Education**.

School Board Recommends: \$ 0.00

ARTICLE 5

To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for **Other Instruction**.

LAST year – \$50,050.00

School Board Recommends: \$51,350.00

ARTICLE 6

To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for **Student and Staff Support**.

LAST year – \$175,965.00

School Board Recommends: \$211,950.00

ARTICLE 7

To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for **System Administration**.

LAST year - \$122,231.81

School Board Recommends: \$127,665.90

ARTICLE 8

To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for **School Administration**.

LAST year - \$145,607.00

School Board Recommends: \$158,016.00

ARTICLE 9

To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for **Transportation and Buses.**

LAST year - \$124,589.00

School Board Recommends: \$124,325.00

ARTICLE 10

To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for **Facilities Maintenance.**

LAST year - \$272,066.20

School Board Recommends: \$425,228.68

ARTICLE 11

To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for **Debt Service and Other Commitments.**

LAST year – \$11,059.00

School Board Recommends: \$13,409.00

ARTICLE 12

To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for **All Other Expenditures.**

LAST year - \$ 0.00

School Board Recommends: \$ 0.00

ARTICLE 13

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 (**LAST year - \$1,921,469.93**. The School Board Recommends **\$1,929,620.90**) 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.

LAST year - \$455,383.00

School Board Recommends: \$441,443.66

“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 to receive the full amount of state dollars.”

ARTICLE 14

To see what sum the municipality/district/unit will raise and appropriate for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the legislative body for non-state-funded school construction projects, non-state-funded portions of school construction projects and minor capital projects in addition to the funds appropriated as the local share of the school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12.

School Board Recommends: \$ 0.00

ARTICLE 15

Shall the Town of Woodland raise and appropriate \$235,926.68 in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$235,926.68 as required to fund the budget recommended by the school committee?

The school committee recommends \$235,926.68 for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and services funding model b \$221,987.34. 1) Increase in staff wages, benefits, and insurances. 2) All supplies costs have increased. 3) Fuel and electricity costs.

LAST year - \$221,987.34

School Board Recommends: \$235,926.68

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 16

To see what sum the municipality/district/unit will authorize the school committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 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 Services Funding Act, non-state funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under that Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition, receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools.

LAST year - \$2,748,286.27

School Board Recommends: \$2,890,847.58

ARTICLE 17

Shall the School Board be authorized to transfer amounts exceeding 5% of the total appropriation for any cost center to another cost center or among other cost centers for the 2024 -2025 fiscal year, provided that transfers shall not be permitted to increase the authorized total school budget.

(Town) ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to Appoint Constables, Surveyors of Woodland, and all other necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to spend an amount not to exceed one-third (1/3) of the budgeted amount in each of the budget categories of the 2024 annual budget during the period from February 1, 2025, to the 2025 annual Town meeting.

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to give a 3% discount on 2024 taxes paid in full by **October 31, 2024**, and that all taxes unpaid as of **November 1, 2024**, be subject to a 4% interest rate and that interest on abated taxes be given at 4%.

ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will, for the purpose of procuring a temporary loan or loans to and for the use of said Town in conducting municipal year 2024 and in anticipation of and to be paid out of the taxes of the current municipal year, 2024 (TAN), authorize and direct the Town Treasurer, subject to approval of the Selectmen, to borrow from time to time during the said municipal year, a sum of money to make, execute, and deliver the negotiable note or notes of the Town therefore payable with said current municipal year, and upon such terms as shall be satisfactory to said Treasurer and Selectmen and debt or debts incurred hereunder to be paid out of money raised by taxation during the present municipal year.

ARTICLE 22

To see if the Town will direct the Tax Collector/Treasurer to accept pre-payment of Real Estate and Personal Property taxes not yet committed pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506, and to pay no interest on said pre-payments.

ARTICLE 23

To see if the Town will vote to transfer all State Revenue Sharing Funds to be received in the ensuing year to offset the Tax Commitment.

ARTICLE 24

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon and on such terms as they deem advisable to execute quit-claim deeds for such property, except that the Municipal Officers shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. 943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s).

ARTICLE 25

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of any Town owned, used, or surplus equipment on such term(s), as they deem advisable.

ARTICLE 26

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to accept any grant funds, which may be offered after application for same through the Community Development Block Grant Program, Department of Economic and Community Development, HUD, USDA/Rural Development or any other State and/or Federal programs, if Town applicants are approved, and authorize the municipal officers to accept said grant funds, to make such assurances, assume such responsibilities, and exercise such authority as are necessary and reasonable to implement such programs.

ARTICLE 27

To see if the Town will authorize any sum legally allowable that is refunded to the Town by the State for **snowmobile registrations** to be used **for establishing and maintaining snowmobile trails** in said Town of Woodland.

ARTICLE 28

To see if the Town will vote to transfer **\$50,220.00** from Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) **Local Road Assistance Program (LRAP)** to offset the **Capital Improvements of Roads in the Town of Woodland.**

ARTICLE 29

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$211,500.00 General Government.**

LAST year - \$193,600.00

Selectmen Recommend: \$211,500.00

Explanation: This includes General Gov't / Administration - \$141,500.00; Elected/Appointed Officials - \$13,500.00; Animal Control - \$1,600.00; Code Enforcement Officer - \$1,700.00 and Municipal Building - \$53,200.00.

ARTICLE 30

To see if the Town will vote and appropriate **\$692,600.00** for **Public Works Highway Department.**

LAST year - \$754,450.00

Selectmen Recommend: \$692,600.00

ARTICLE 31

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$97,500.00** for **Insurances, Retirement and Payroll Liabilities.**

Social Security/Medicare	\$ 9,000.00
Medical Insurance	\$ 80,000.00
Retirement	\$ 500.00
Unemployment Insurance	\$ 500.00
Workers Compensation	<u>\$ 7,500.00</u>
Total	\$ 97,500.00

LAST year - \$99,169.00

Selectmen Recommend: \$97,500.00

ARTICLE 32

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$68,000.00** to be used for **Solid Waste Disposal (Health and Sanitation).**

LAST year - \$68,000.00

Selectmen Recommend: \$68,000.00

ARTICLE 33

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$152,125.00** for **Ambulance and Fire Service**.

LAST year - \$152,125.00

Selectmen Recommend: \$152,125.00

Explanation: \$152,125.00 is the Total of combined Caribou Fire/Ambulance and the Caribou Fire Protection Services. Fire/Ambulance - \$30,425.00 / Fire Protection Service - \$121,700.00

ARTICLE 34

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$2,313.00** for **Central Aroostook Humane Society**.

LAST year - \$2,313.00

Selectmen Recommend: \$2,313.00

ARTICLE 35

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$2,134.00** for **Northern Maine Development Commission for 2023 Membership Dues**.

LAST year - \$2,134.00

Selectmen Recommend: \$2,134.00

ARTICLE 36

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$111,564.30** for **Aroostook County Tax**.

LAST year - \$108,296.00

Selectmen Recommend: \$111,564.30

ARTICLE 37

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$5,670.00** for **Social Services** for the following services offered to the Town:

Aroostook County Action Program	\$ 485.00
American Red Cross	\$ 350.00
Aroostook Area Agency on Aging	\$ 150.00
Caribou Emergency Management	\$ 200.00
Catholic Charities of Maine	\$ 100.00
Central Aroostook Soil and Water	\$ 250.00
Healthy Families Aroostook	\$ 100.00
Maine Veteran's Cemetery	\$ 100.00
Sister Mary O'Donnell Shelter	\$2,305.00
Woodland Cemetery Association	\$ 280.00
Woodland Historical Society	\$1,100.00
Woodland Ski Trail	<u>\$ 250.00</u>
	\$5,670.00

LAST year - \$4,985.00

Selectmen Recommend: \$5,670.00

ARTICLE 38

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,000.00** for **General Assistance** for the ensuing year.

LAST year - \$1,500.00

Selectmen Recommend: \$1,000.00

ARTICLE 39

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$20,000** for **Discounts and Abatements** for the ensuing year.

LAST year - \$20,000

Selectmen Recommend: \$20,000.00

*Explanation: **Abatements: \$1,000.00 Discounts: \$19,000 (For 2024 tax bills) = \$20,000***

ARTICLE 40

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,000** to be added to **Office Equipment Reserve**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$1,000.00

ARTICLE 41

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$60,000** to be added to the **Highway Equipment Reserve**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$60,000.00

ARTICLE 42

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$10,000** to be added to the **Building Repair Reserve**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$10,000.00

ARTICLE 43

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$5,000** to be added to the **Assessment Reserve Account**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$5,000.00

Explanation: for future additional assessing per Town Assessor, as this is what he recommended).

ARTICLE 44

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$25,000** to be added to a **Planning Board Reserve Account**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$25,000.00

ARTICLE 45

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the Unexpended Balance (if any) to the **Road Maintenance Reserve Account**.

Selectmen Recommend: Yes

ARTICLE 46

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to transfer **\$30,000** from **Undesignated Funds Account and/or Retained Earnings** for unanticipated purchase(s) or repair of equipment.

ARTICLE 47

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to transfer if needed/up to **\$10,000** from **Undesignated Funds Account (Surplus Account) and/or Retained Earnings** to cover an Overdraft in a Budgeted Account.

ARTICLE 48

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$20,000** to be added to an **Equity Replacement Reserve**.

Selectmen Recommend: \$20,000.00

ARTICLE 49

To see if the Town will vote to approve the purchase of **plow truck / trucks** for the public works department, to be paid monthly over a period of sixty (60) months, for a price not to exceed **\$250,000.00**. Payment to be made from **Highway Equipment Reserve**.

ARTICLE 50

To see if the Town will vote to approve an ordinance for a **Sovereign Market** in the Town of Woodland. This ordinance is intended to provide the residents unimpeded access to local food and to reduce governmental regulation of local foods to the extent permitted by home authority under 30-A M.R.S.A. § 2001, the Constitution of Maine, Article VIII, Part Second, and pursuant to 7 M.R.S. § 281 et seq.

ARTICLE 51

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,600.00** for the **Animal Control Officer's** stipend & travel.

LAST year - \$1,050.00

Selectmen Recommend: \$1,600.00

Dated: 28 June, 2024

BOARD OF SELECTMEN - TOWN OF WOODLAND

Matt Cole
MATT COLE, CHAIR

Chris Fournier
CHRIS R. FOURNIER

Kathy P. Ouellette
KATHY P. OUELLETTE

A true copy of the warrant,

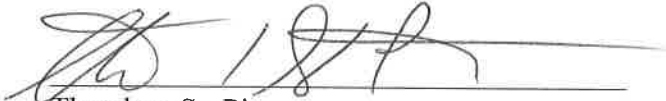
Attest:

[Signature]
Clerk of: Town of Woodland

RETURN OF THE WARRANT

Woodland, Maine July 1, 2024 A.D.

Pursuant to the within warrant to me directed, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of said town, qualified as herein expressed, to meet at said time and place, and for the purposes therein named, by posting an attested copy of said warrant at the bulletin board outside the Town Hall entrance, at the Woodland Consolidated School, at the Woodland Consolidated School Superintendent's office, and on the town's website, being public and conspicuous places in said town, on the 1st day of July 2024 A.D., being at least seven days before the meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Theodore St. Pierre', written over a horizontal line.

Theodore St. Pierre
Resident of Woodland