

To Fred Iler, Resident of the Town of Porter in the County of Oxford:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the said Town of Porter, qualified to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Porter Municipal Building in said town on the 20th day of March, A.D. 2020 at 4:00 in the afternoon to act on the following articles to wit:

Article 1. To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

The Moderator will then open the polls at the Porter Town Hall. The polls will remain open until 8:00 p.m. to vote on article 2.

Article 2. To elect by secret ballot the following Town Officers:

One Selectman, Assessor, Overseer-of-the-Poor	3 year term
One Director of S.A.D. 55	3 year term
Two Planning Board Members	3 year term
One Planning Board Member	2 year term
Two Planning Board Members	1 year term

When the polls are closed, the meeting will recess until 9:00 a.m. on the following morning, March 21, 2020 to act on the following articles to wit:

Article 3. To choose all other necessary town officers for the ensuing year.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount in each budget category of the 2020 annual budget during the period from February 1, 2021 to the next annual town meeting.

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to enter into another 30-year term Interlocal Solid Waste Agreement which includes the Towns of Baldwin, Hiram and Porter for the purpose of managing solid waste for the three municipalities. Said Interlocal Solid Waste Agreement has been reviewed by Maine Department of Environmental Protection and confirmed the agreement meets all of their requirements as written. A copy of the agreement is attached and available at the Porter Town Office for review.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to ratify the five-year contract entered into on July 31, 2019 between the Town and Todd Pierce for snow removal and sanding operations.

Article 7. Shall the Town (1) approve a capital project consisting of road reconstruction and repair, including transaction costs and other expenses reasonably related thereto; (2) appropriate the sum of \$175,000 to fund the project; (3) authorize the Town Treasurer and the Chair of the Select Board to issue general obligation securities of the Town (including temporary notes in anticipation of the sale thereof) in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$175,000 to fund the appropriation; and (4) delegate to the Treasurer and the Chair of the Select Board the authority and discretion to fix the dates, maturities, interest rates, denominations, calls for redemption (with or without premium), form, and other details of said securities, including authority to execute and deliver the securities on behalf of the Town?

Explanatory Note: The Board anticipates borrowing the authorized amount on an as-needed basis for road work over the next two years. Depending on budget appropriations, the Town may be able to retire the debt at the end of the two-year period. If the debt is not fully retired at the end of the two-year period, the Board will establish an installment arrangement with the bank.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Total Town Indebtedness:

A.	Outstanding balance of bonds previously issued:	\$ 171,526.40
B.	Bonds authorized and unissued:	\$ -0-
C.	Anticipated amount of bonds to be issued:	<u>\$ 175,000.00</u>
	Total:	<u>\$ 346,526.40</u>

Costs: At an estimated net interest rate of 2.0% for a two (2) year maturity, the estimated cost of this bond issue will be:

Total Principal	\$ 175,000.00
Interest:	<u>\$ 3,500.00*</u>
Total Debt Service:	<u>\$ 178,500.00</u>

Validity: The validity of the bonds and the voter’s ratification of the bonds may not be affected by any errors in the above estimates, the ratification by the voters is nonetheless conclusive and the validity of the bonds is not affected by reason of the variance.

Treasurer
Town of Porter

*This calculation assumes that money will be drawn on an as-needed basis during the next two road construction seasons, and that the Town will be able to retire the debt after two years.

TAX RELATED ARTICLES

Article 8. To see if the town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of \$485,794 established for Porter by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the following articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer the authority to use the Tax Lien Waiver Foreclosure process (Title 36 M.R.S.A. § 944).

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to sell any or all tax acquired property, whether by foreclosure of tax liens or acquired by court action by sealed bid, 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). The sale or sales shall first be advertised for three (3) successive weeks in “Your Weekly Shopping Guide” or a newspaper of general circulation in the local area, and to execute and deliver municipal quitclaim deeds for the same. Provided, however, the Select Board, in their discretion, may offer and sell any such property to the former owner against whom the tax had been assessed or to the successor or successors in interest to that person. The Select Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to use funds from undesignated fund balance, as they deem advisable, to reduce the tax commitment for fiscal year 2020.

Article 12.To see if the Town will vote to establish December 1, 2020 as the date when the 2020 real estate and personal property taxes will be due and payable, and to establish a rate of 9.00% interest to be charged on all unpaid taxes as of that date (the maximum allowable rate by the State is 9.00% per annum.)

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes for the ensuing year, not yet due or assessed, and to pay interest at a rate of 3% per annum on such prepayments made prior to commitment of those taxes. Prepayments not to exceed 90% of the previous year's tax. Said interest on prepayments of taxes shall be taken from undesignated fund balance as needed. (Title 36 M.R.S.A. §506)

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to set the rate of interest paid on overpayment of taxes at 5%. In accordance with Title 36 M.R.S.A. §506-A, the interest rate can be no less than 4% below the per annum rate charged on delinquent taxes. Said interest on overpayment of taxes shall be taken from undesignated fund balance as needed.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to direct the Tax Collector/Treasurer to apply any tax payment received for any property tax to outstanding or delinquent taxes owed and in chronological order beginning with the oldest unpaid tax bill. (Title 36 M.R.S.A. §906)

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION - 10

Article 16. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for the Town Officers' Salaries account for the ensuing year and to authorize the Select Board to transfer all clerk fees to the Town Officers' Salaries account to be expended from the same.

Budget Committee recommends: raise \$151,000 and transfer all clerk fees.

Article 17. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for the Office account and to authorize the Select Board to enter all income received from the rental of space, photocopying fees & fax fees into this account to be expended from the same.

Budget Committee recommends: raise \$43,000 and add income from rental of space, photocopying fees & fax fees.

Article 18. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for the Insurance account (including Workers Compensation Insurance).

Budget Committee recommends raise \$8,000. The Select Board recommends 11,000.

Article 19. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$25,182.22 for the Debt Payment account to be expended for the 2020 payment on the Maine Municipal Bond.

Budget Committee recommends this article.

Article 20. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to cover the interest & legal expenses on a Tax Anticipation Note for the fiscal year 2020.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$11,000.

Article 21. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Contingent account to meet unanticipated expenses and emergencies that occur during the fiscal year 2020.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$10,000.

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to accept donations of items or monetary donations not to exceed \$1,000 per donation and made without conditions other than dedication to a Town budget account. All monetary donations to be deposited into the Undesignated Fund (surplus). Any donation exceeding \$1,000 will require town approval at a special town meeting.

Article 23. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to apply for, accept, and expend grant money available from the State of Maine, Federal Government, or other organizations for any public purpose when they deem it to be in the town's best interest and needed matching funds are available within the current budget.

BOARDS & COMMITTEES - 12

Article 24. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for the Porter Planning Board and Appeals Board account.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$1,500.

Article 25. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for the Porter Comprehensive Planning Committee account.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$1,000. Select Board recommends raise \$500.

Article 26. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for the Porter Conservation Commission for management of the town cemeteries, the town ball field, the Veteran's Park, the Spec Pond swim area and other conservation activities as deemed to be in the best interest of the town.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$3,500.

PUBLIC WORKS - 15

Article 27. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for the Roads account (to be spent on repairs and maintenance for the ensuing year).

Budget Committee recommends raise \$160,000 and transfer the unexpended balance of \$57,977.29 to the Road Reconstruction Reserve Fund.

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to review any and all road work to be done and, if they deem advisable, to let the work out to private contractor by hourly rate or by bid.

Article 29. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for the Winter Roads account for the ensuing year.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$260,000.

Article 30. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for the Solid Waste account for the ensuing year.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$95,000.

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to close the following roads to Winter Maintenance during the months of November, December, January, February, March and April for a period of ten years:

Gilman Road from French Road to #153;

Town Pound Road from Old Meetinghouse Road to #230; and

Sarah Bridge Road from #20 to Route 160.

Article 32. To see if the Town will vote to close Norton Hill Road, from Moody Road to #395, to winter maintenance during the months of November, December, January, February, March and April for a period of ten years.

Article 33. To see if the Town will vote to close Garner Court, from Bridge Street to River Street, to winter maintenance during the months of November, December, January, February, March and April for a period of ten years.

PUBLIC SAFETY - 20

Article 34. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Animal Control account.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$2,000.

Article 35. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$51,325 for the maintenance of the Kezar Falls Fire Department.

Budget Committee recommends this article.

Article 36. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,500 for the maintenance and operation of Sacopee Rescue to be disbursed in three (3) payments in April, August and November.

Budget Committee recommends this article.

Article 37. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for the Street Lights account for the ensuing year.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$15,000.

Article 38. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for the Hydrants account for the ensuing year.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$53,000.

Article 39. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the E-911 Communications Account to be expended for the dispatch of E-911 calls through the Maine State Police.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$8,000.

HEALTH & WELFARE – 25

Article 40. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for the General Assistance account.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$1,000.

RESERVE FUNDS

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION - 50

Article 41. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Capital Improvements Reserve Fund.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$10,000 and carry forward the unexpended balance of \$38,376.89.

Article 42. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Old Porter Meetinghouse Reserve Fund to be expended for repairs and maintenance of the Old Porter Meeting House.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$5,000 and carry forward the unexpended balance of \$19,457.97.

Article 43. To see if the Town will authorize the transfer of revenue generated from vital record fees to the Records Restoration Reserve Fund.

Budget Committee recommends this article.

Article 44. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Revaluation Reserve Fund to be expended for the revaluation of property in the Town of Porter for tax purposes.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$15,000 and carry forward the unexpended balance of \$55,000.

PUBLIC SAFETY - 60

Article 45. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Kezar Falls Fire Department Equipment Reserve Fund.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$10,000 and carry forward the unexpended balance of \$49,312.13.

Article 46. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for the Sacopee Rescue Reserve Fund.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$5,000 and carry forward the unexpended balance of \$31,000.

PUBLIC WORKS - 70

Article 47. To see what sum of money the Town will raise, appropriate & transfer to the Bridge / Culvert Reserve Fund. Funds to be used for the repair of bridges, and culverts in excess of 24 inches in diameter.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$10,000 and transfer the unexpended balance of \$10,000 from the Bridge Reserve Fund.

Article 48. To see what sum of money the town will raise and appropriate for the Dam Reserve Fund. Said funds to be expended by the Select Board for the repair or replacement of the town's dams, including engineering, tests, permits, pursuing grants, etc.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$5,000 and carry forward the unexpended balance of \$31,432.95.

Article 49. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for the Road Reconstruction Reserve Fund; said projects to be at the discretion of the Select Board.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$35,000 and transfer from the DOT Reserve Fund as needed.

Article 50. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for the Sidewalk Reserve Fund to be expended for replacing, upgrading, or constructing sidewalks.

Select Board recommends raise \$3,000. Budget Committee recommends raise \$5,000 and carry forward the unexpended balance of \$19,935.

Article 51. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for the Tri-Town Waste Reserve Fund and authorize the Select Board to withdraw funds from the reserve as needed for the capital expenses at the Tri-Town Waste Disposal Facility.

Budget Committee recommends raise \$15,000 and carry forward the unexpended balance of \$51,400.

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Article 52. To see if the Town will authorize the use of town-owned buildings by outside organizations, groups or individuals and to charge a fee and other requirements as outlined in the Facilities Use Policy for use of said properties to help cover town expenses. Fees collected to be deposited into the Office Account.

Article 53. To see if the Town will vote to dedicate the franchise fees and any other grants received from Spectrum, Inc to Sacopee Valley Media Tech (Sacopee TV) for the purchase and maintenance of equipment, and for operating costs.

Budget Committee recommends this article.

Article 54. To see if the Town will vote to transfer 100% of the previous year's registration fees rebate from the state to the Sacopee Valley Snowdrifters. This money to be used for various purposes such as trail maintenance, construction or purchase of equipment and materials. These maintained trails to be open to the public during the winter.

Budget Committee recommends this article.

Article 55. To see if the Town will vote to accept the net income from the Stanley-Higgins Trust to be paid to the Stanley-Higgins Fund Committee for the purposes stated in such trust.

Article 56. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee’s recommendations for the support of the agencies or organizations listed below:

Agency or Organization	Requested Amount	Budget Committee Recommendations
American Legion - West Day Post 123	\$400	\$400
American Red Cross	\$1,000	\$1,000
Community Concepts	\$2,950	\$2,950
Eastern Slopes Airport Authority	\$300	\$0
Friends of Porter 567	\$500	\$500
Harvest Hills Animal Shelter	\$1,498	\$1,498
Health Equity Alliance	\$500	\$0
Healthcare Access	\$740	\$0
Kezar Falls Circulating Library	\$5,750	\$5,750
The LifeFlight Foundation	\$749	\$749
Maine Public	\$100	\$100
MaineHealth Care at Home	\$1,000	\$1,000
Parsonsfield-Porter Historical Society	\$500	\$500
Riverside Food Pantry	\$750	\$750
Saco River Corridor Commission	\$300	\$300
Saco River Festival Association	\$400	\$400
Sacopee Valley Recreation Council	\$4,000	\$4,000
Sacopee Valley Snowdrifters	\$500	\$500
Seniors Plus	\$1,200	\$1,200
Smooth Feather Youth	\$600	\$600
Southern Maine Planning & Development Commission	\$579	\$579
Southwest Oxford County Nutrition (Food Pantry)	\$3,100	\$2,350
Tri-County Mental Health Services	\$850	\$500

Article 57. A motion to adjourn.

Given under our hands this 26th day of February, 2020

Robert W. Heard, Chair

Ronald Silvia

Brent Day

Select Board, Town of Porter