

TOWN OF SOUTH BERWICK
WARRANT
2023/2024

State of Maine

County of York, ss.

TO: Bridget Pote, a Resident of South Berwick in the County of York, State of Maine.

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Town of South Berwick, you are required to notify the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to assemble at the Town Hall on 180 Main Street in said Town on Tuesday, the 16th of May 2023, at 6:00 o'clock in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles:

- ARTICLE 1. To elect a moderator to preside at said meeting. Election to take place at 6:30pm. Business session will be held immediately following.
- ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will authorize the Town Council to dispose of tax acquired property in any manner in which the Town Council deems to be in the best interests of the Town.
TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS: Adoption
- ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to charge and collect interest at a rate of eight (8) percent per annum on all unpaid taxes not paid by the due dates, with one-half of the taxes due on September 30, 2023 and one-half due on March 31, 2024.
TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS: Adoption
- ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes not yet due or assessed. Any excess paid in over the amount finally assessed shall be repaid at zero (0) percent interest.
TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS: Adoption
- ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to continue an eight (8) month payment plan known as the "Tax Club", with interest waived for all members of the Club making regular payments in accordance with the rules and regulations governing said Club.
TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS: Adoption
- ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to set the rate of interest paid on overpayment of taxes due to abatement at four (4) percent per annum as per MRSA36/506A.
TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS: Adoption
- ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Undesignated Fund for the payment of property tax abatements (and applicable interest) granted during this fiscal year.
TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS: Adoption
- ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the deposit of all proceeds from the Parking Lease Agreement between the Town and Avesta Young Street LP dated December 12, 2014 and December 22, 2015 into a non-lapsing designated reserve account and to appropriate and expend those funds to pay any costs associated with the repair and maintenance of said parking lot.
TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS: Adoption
- ARTICLE 9. To see if the voters will allow the Town Council to utilize funds from the TIF Accounts for the purposes denoted in the Final TIF agreements approved in 2023.
TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS: Adoption
- ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following amounts for Police Services:
- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Police Department/Animal Control | \$1,377,050 |
| Dispatch | <u>273,922</u> |
| Total | \$1,650,972 |
- TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS:
Raise and appropriate from general taxation
and other revenue sources \$1,650,972

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following amounts for Emergency Services:

Fire Department/Emergency Management Services	\$ 346,415
Water Assessment/Fire Protection	299,735
Ambulance/Rescue Services	<u>101,640</u>
Total	\$ 747,790

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS:

Raise and appropriate from general taxation and other revenue sources	\$ 747,790
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ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following amounts for Public Works:

Town Hall	\$ 110,320
Community Center	79,670
Community Center Food Pantry	200
Highway	1,109,794
Public Parks/Fields/Monuments	64,785
Town Garage Buildings	37,100
Transfer Station	<u>561,687</u>
Total	\$1,963,556

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS:

Raise and appropriate from general taxation and other revenue sources	\$ 1,963,556
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ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$86,634 from the Department of Transportation Highway Block Grant (URIP/LRAP) funds and raise and appropriate the following amounts for Capital Improvements – Roads and Road Bond Debt:

CIP Roads	\$ 272,000
Road Bond Debt	<u>428,000</u>
Total	\$ 700,000

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS:

Appropriate from DOT Highway Block Grant (URIP/LRAP) and	\$ 86,634
Raise and appropriate from general taxation and other revenue sources	\$ 613,366
Total	\$ 700,000

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$850,000 from Undesignated funds and to raise and appropriate for the following amounts for General Government:

Town Council	\$ 9,250
Town Manager	239,049
Town Clerk	162,030
Finance	124,957
Computer	71,662
Administration	228,519
Tax Assessment	132,181
Employee Benefits	1,458,300
Streetlights	<u>8,800</u>
Total	\$ 2,434,748

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS:

Appropriate from Undesignated Fund Balance and	\$ 850,000
Raise and appropriate from general taxation and other revenue sources	\$ 1,584,748
Total	\$ 2,434,748

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from general taxation and other revenue sources the following amounts for Debt Service:

Young Street Debt	\$ 39,501
2010 CIP Debt	45,713
Library Construction Debt	112,125
Police Bond	275,365
Hwy Equipment	25,343
Hwy Building	<u>29,980</u>
Total	\$ 528,027

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS:

Raise and appropriate from general taxation
and other revenue sources \$ 528,027

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following amounts for Code Enforcement and Health Departments:

Code Enforcement	\$ 92,975
Planning	85,465
Historic District Commission	250
Zoning Board of Appeals	<u>750</u>
Total	\$ 179,440

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS:

Raise and appropriate from general taxation
and other revenue sources \$ 179,440

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the following amounts for Public Welfare:

Social Services/General Assistance	\$ 48,200
Social/Civic Contributions	11,500
Recreation	142,671
Conservation Commission	4,750
Library	<u>230,801</u>
Total	\$ 437,922

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS:

Raise and appropriate from general taxation
and other revenue sources \$ 437,922

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$37,500 from TIF funds and to raise and appropriate the following amounts for Capital Improvements – Reserves:

Highway Equipment	\$ 130,000
Office Equipment	15,000
Fire Equipment	95,000
Police Equipment	70,000
Transfer Station	10,000
Town Buildings Reserve	90,000
Compensated Absence Reserve	50,000
Pedestrian Safety	2,000
Comprehensive Plan Updates	12,000
Town Clerk Record Preservation	1,500
Emergency Disaster Necessities	2,500
Ambulance Services	90,000
Assessing Town Revaluation	<u>83,500</u>
Total	\$ 651,500

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS:

Appropriate from TIF fund balance \$37,500
and
Raise and appropriate from general taxation
and other revenue sources \$ 614,000
Total \$ 651,500

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to apply the following amounts from Excise Taxes, Non-Tax General Fund Revenues, Revenue Sharing, BETE Reimbursement and Homestead Exemption Reimbursement to use toward the 2023/2024 Budget Appropriations, thereby decreasing the amount to be raised by taxation.

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS:

Excise Taxes	\$1,435,000
Non-Tax General Fund Revenues	1,463,934
State Revenue Sharing	1,225,000
Homestead Exemption Reimbursement	480,000
BETE Reimbursement	<u>13,000</u>
Total	\$4,616,934

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS: Adoption

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of \$5,421,245 established for the Town of South Berwick 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.

TOWN COUNCIL RECOMMENDS: Adoption

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to adjourn the Town Meeting.

Given under our hands in the Town of South Berwick, this 11th day of April 2023 A.D.

s/
Mallory Cook

John J James

s/
Jeffrey Minihan

s/
Jessica Cyr

s/
Melissa Costella

Attested copies of the warrant were posted on Monday, May 8, 2023, by resident Bridget Pote at the following public locations: Town Hall, Library, Community Center, and US Post Office. The Warrant is also posted on the Town's website.