

**TOWN OF OXFORD
SECRET BALLOT ELECTION/REFERENDUM
AND
TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

**Saturday, June 04, 2022
and
Tuesday, June 14, 2022**

Town Meeting June 04, 2022, 10:00 a.m.
Oxford Elementary School
79 Pleasant Street, Oxford, Maine

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Secret Ballot Election/Referendum June 14, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Oxford Public Safety Building
701 Main Street, Oxford, Maine

TOWN OF OXFORD WARRANT

STATE OF MAINE

COUNTY OF OXFORD

To Teresa Grenier, a resident of the Town of Oxford:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Oxford in said County and State, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the **Oxford Elementary School**, 79 Pleasant Street, Oxford, on **Saturday, June 4, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.**, then and there to act on Article 1 by written ballot and Articles 3 through 40 as set out below, and at the conclusion of that portion of the meeting, the meeting will be recessed; the recessed meeting will be reconvened at the **Oxford Public Safety Building**, 701 Main Street, Oxford, on **Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 8 a.m.**, then and there to act by secret ballot on Article 2 as set out below, the polling hours, therefore, to be from **8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.**

- Article 1: To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.
- Article 2: To elect all Municipal Officers, Oxford Water District Trustees, and SAD #17 Directors.
- Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate Excise Tax, Tree Growth Reimbursement, Veteran Exempt Reimbursement, Boat Excise Tax, Building Permit Fees, State Road Assistance, Town Agent Fees, Town Clerk Fees, Plumbing Permit Fees, Miscellaneous Revenue, Revenue Sharing, School Block Grant, Weapon Permit Fees, and Swimming Lesson Fees towards the reduction of monies to be raised by taxation in the commitment.
- Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$683,542 for the Administration Account (FY2021-2022: \$678,501).
Selectmen Recommends: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval
- Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$88,033 for Code Enforcement (FY2021-2022: \$85,477).
Selectmen Recommends: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval
- Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,007,190 for the Police Department and Animal Control Accounts (FY2021-2022: \$942,999).
Selectmen Recommends: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval
- Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$820,584 for the Highway Department Account (FY2021-2022: \$773,157).
Selectmen Recommends: Approval
Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$843,257 for the Fire/Rescue Department Account (FY2021-2022: \$818,945).

Selectmen Recommends: Approval

Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$57,140 for the Public Safety Buildings Account (FY2021-2022: \$69,050).

Selectmen Recommends: Approval

Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$115,941 for the Recreation Account (FY2021-2022: \$115,563).

Selectmen Recommends: Approval

Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,850 for the General Assistance Account (FY2021-2022: \$16,862).

Selectmen Recommends: Approval

Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$455,709 for the Transfer Station/Recycle Account (FY2021-2022: \$403,390).

Selectmen Recommends: Approval

Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$371,538 for the Wastewater Treatment Account (FY2021-2022: \$365,907).

Selectmen Recommends: Approval

Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$154,818 for the Municipal Accounts (FY2021-2022: \$178,400).

Selectmen Recommends: Approval

Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

	<u>FY2021-2022</u>	<u>FY2022-2023</u>
a. Liability Insurance	92,900	77,315
b. Animal Shelter	5,000	5,363
c. Fire Protection	71,500	69,140
d. Unemployment	9,000	3,000
Total:	\$178,400	\$154,818

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$712,388 and appropriate an additional \$816,428 from the Route 26 Omnibus Municipal Development TIF reserve account and the Walmart Municipal Development TIF reserve account, for a total appropriation of \$1,528,816, for Town debt service as follows:

	<u>Raise</u>	<u>Appropriate</u>
a. Road and PSB Bond	1,688	1,688
b. 5 Year TD Road Bond	423,672	423,672
c. Grader Lease	87,651	87,651
d. Ambulance Lease	64,377	64,377

e. Sewer Bond	45,000	821,650
f. Waterline Bond	90,000	129,778
Total	\$712,388	\$1,528,816

Selectmen Recommends: Approval

Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$42,500 for the Freeland Holmes Library (FY2021-2022: \$34,987).

Selectmen Recommends: Approval

Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 as donations to community agencies (FY2021-2022: \$2,528).

	<u>FY2021-2022</u>	<u>FY2022-2023</u>
a. Seniors Plus	1,500	1,500
b. Lifeflight Foundation	1,028	1,000
c. Androscoggin Home Health/Hospice	0	500
Total:	\$2,528	\$3,000

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,425 for the Boards and Committees Account (FY2021-2022: \$14,425).

Selectmen Recommends: Approval

Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$84,000 for the Highway Truck and Equipment Reserve Account.

Selectmen Recommends: Approval

Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for the Cemetery Cleaning and Repair Reserve Account.

Selectmen Recommends: Approval

Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 for the Waste Water Treatment Facility Reserve Account (FY2021-2022: \$30,000).

Selectmen Recommends: Approval

Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to authorize, delegate, and ratify the acceptance and delivery of easements by the Board of Selectmen on behalf of the Town in order to facilitate Town-related construction projects.

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate 100% of the snowmobile refund check for the purpose of maintaining snowmobile trails by the Rock-O-Dundee Snowmobile Club, such maintenance to be performed only with the landowners' permission and only on trails that are open for public use.

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to carry forward to the following year any unexpended balances it deems advisable, and to lapse to fund balance

any overdrafts in accordance with the Town's fund balance policy.

- Article 25: 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 nonpayment of taxes thereon, on such terms it deems advisable, and to execute deeds for such property and the proposed action of the Board of Selectmen shall be advertised for two (2) weeks, with the exception that the Board of Selectmen shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S.A. § 943-C for qualifying homestead properties if not sold back to the former owner.
- Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of town-owned personal property with a value of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or less under such terms and conditions as it deems advisable, or if the value exceeds five thousand dollars (\$5,000), then by a public bid process.
- Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept gifts of money or personal property to the Town and to appropriate and expend such money for such public purposes as the Board deems to be in the best interests of the Town.
- Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept conditional gifts of money or personal property to the Town and to appropriate and expend the funds for the purposes for which the gift was made and in accordance with any conditions imposed by the donor and to accept conditional gifts of personal property to the Town and to use the property in the manner specified by the donor.
- Article 29: 1) To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to collect taxes twice a year and to collect prepayment of taxes. The first bill to be one half of the assessed taxes due October 25, 2022, and the second half of assessed taxes due April 25, 2023; interest to be charged on each of the unpaid balances at 4% annually after October 25, 2022, and after April 25, 2023, respectively; and
- 2) To see if the Town will permit the Tax Collector or the designee to waive unintentional tax interest payment shortages in an amount not to exceed \$5.00; and
- 3) To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed and to pay no interest on those prepayments in accordance with Title 36 M.R.S.A. § 506.
- Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen or the Town Manager, acting in concurrence with said Selectmen, to accept and expend, on behalf of the Town, federal and/or State funds which may be received, from time to time, in the form of grants or for any other purpose, during the period 07/01/22 to 06/30/23, including, but not limited to Municipal Revenue Sharing, Local Road Assistance, State Aid to Education, Public Library, State Aid per capita, Civil Emergency Funds, Snowmobiling Registration money, Tree Growth Reimbursement money, General Assistance Reimbursement, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), Economic Development Administration (EDA) grants, Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) grants, U.S. Fire Administration grants, Police grants, and to act on anything relative thereto.
- Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to establish the rate of interest at 0% for those who have

received an abatement or have overpaid their taxes for the fiscal year 2022-2023.

Article 32: To see if the Town will vote to allow the Board of Selectmen to transfer balances from individual Capital Improvement Project reserve accounts within the Capital Improvement Projects Fund when the intent of the original Capital Improvement Project has been accomplished or abandoned.

Article 33: Shall an ordinance entitled “2022 Amendments to the Oxford Zoning Ordinance Regarding the Official Zoning Map” be enacted?

[The proposed ordinance amendments are available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office and will be available at the Town Meeting.]

Article 34: Shall an ordinance entitled “2022 Town of Oxford Marijuana Facility Licensing Ordinance to Establish a Marijuana Licensing Program and 2022 Amendments to the Oxford Zoning Ordinance to Repeal Provisions Related to Marijuana Facilities” be enacted?

[The proposed ordinance amendments are available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office and will be available at the Town Meeting.]

Article 35: Shall an ordinance titled “2022 Amendments to the Sewer Use Ordinance of the Town of Oxford” be enacted?

[The proposed ordinance amendments are available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office and will be available at the Town Meeting.]

Article 36: Shall an ordinance entitled “2022 Town of Oxford Food Sovereignty Ordinance” be enacted?

[The proposed ordinance amendments are available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office and will be available at the Town Meeting.]

Article 37: Shall an ordinance entitled “2022 Property Maintenance Ordinance of the Town of Oxford” be enacted?

[The proposed ordinance amendments are available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office and will be available at the Town Meeting.]

Article 38: To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of 5 M.R.S. § 18252-C (P.L. 2021, Chapter 286), as allowed by MainePERS Rule Chapter 803, whereby the Town agrees:

- (i) To adopt the provisions of 5 M.R.S. § 18252-C for its non-participating employees with optional membership who previously declined to participate in MainePERS; and
- (ii) To authorize the Board of Selectmen to sign the Amended Agreement between the Town and the Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

Article 39: To see if the Town will vote to:

- (i) authorize the issuance of up to \$750,000 in general obligation bonds or notes for the purchase of real estate (land and building) for a new Town Office and to pay for costs of acquisition, survey, legal and other related costs of such acquisition,

hereby authorized and appropriated, all as determined to be appropriate by the Board of Selectmen, with the dates, maturities, denominations, interest rate(s) and other details of the bonds or notes to be determined by the Board of Selectmen (including provisions that the notes or bonds may be prepaid or subject to call for redemption with or without premium);

- (ii) authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept delivery of a deed from Stephens Memorial Hospital Association conveying the lot or parcel of land approximately 4.4 acres in size with improvements thereon located at 127 Pottle Road in Oxford and currently shown as Assessors' Tax Map U44, Lot 32A on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems to be in the best interests of the Town;
- (iii) appropriate up to \$294,000 from the Town Office Building reserve account for renovations and other related fit-up costs in order to convert the property to be acquired as set forth herein to a new Town Office; and
- (iv) accept gifts or grants from non-Town sources for these purposes.

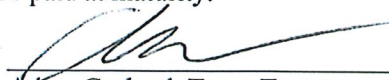
Total estimated debt service of this bond issue is \$808,123.50, of which principal is \$750,000 and estimated interest at 1.5% over 10 years is \$58,123.50.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT – TOWN OF OXFORD

The issuance of bonds by the Town of Oxford (the "Town") is one of the ways in which the Town borrows money for certain purposes. The following is a summary of the bonded indebtedness of the Town as of the date of this Town Meeting:

*Bonds Now Outstanding and Unpaid	\$15,620,718.37
*Interest to be Repaid on Outstanding Bonds	\$5,243,601.21
*Total to be Repaid on Bonds Issued	\$20,864,319.58
*Additional Bonds Authorized But Not Yet Issued	\$0
*Potential New Interest on Bonds Not Yet Issued	\$0
*Total Additional Bonds (now proposed) to be Issued if Approved by Voters	\$750,000.00
*Estimated of Potential New Interest	\$58,123.50
*Total Additional Bonds To Be Issued and Estimated Interest if Approved by Voters	\$808,123.50

When money is borrowed by issuing bonds, the Town must repay not only the principal amount of the bonds but also interest on the bonds. The amount of interest to be paid will vary depending upon the rate of interest and the years to maturity at the time of issue. The validity of the bonds and of the voters' ratification of the bonds may not be affected by any errors in the estimates made of the costs involved, including varying interest rates, the estimated cost of interest on the bond amount to be issued, and the total cost of principal and interest to be paid at maturity.


Adam Garland, Town Treasurer

Article 40: (Written ballot required by statute) To see if the Town will vote to increase the maximum property tax levy limit (LD1) established by State law in the event that the municipal

budget approved results in a tax commitment in excess of the property tax levy otherwise allowable, such that the increased maximum property tax levy hereby established will equal the amount committed or see what action the Town will take.

Note: It is not projected that the Town's budget will exceed tax levy limits established by State law, but as a preventative housekeeping action, it is recommended that the Town vote to approve.

Signed this 5th day of May, 2022.


Caldwell Jackson


Sharon Jackson


Dana Dillingham


Scott Hunter


Floyd Thayer

BOARD OF SELECTMEN