

# Annual Town Meeting Warrant/Secret Ballot

## Tuesday, June 8, 2021 Polls Open 8am – 8pm

To: Lee Mank, resident of the Town of Readfield, in the County of Kennebec, State of Maine

### GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Readfield in said county and state, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the **Kents Hill School - Alford Athletic Center, 1617 Main St** in said Town on Tuesday, the 8<sup>th</sup> day of June, A.D. 2021, at eight o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to act upon Article 1 and by secret ballot on Articles 2 through 42 as set out below, the polling hours therefor to be from 8 o'clock in the forenoon until 8 o'clock in the afternoon, said articles being the following:

Article 1: Elect a moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

Article 2: Elect two Select Board members for a three-year term:

- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Write in: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

Elect two RSU #38 School Board members for a three-year term:

- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Write in: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

Elect one Local School Committee member for a one-year term:

- ☐ Write in: \_\_\_\_\_

Article 3: Shall the Town of Readfield vote to allow the Select Board to establish **Salaries and or Wages** of town officers and employees, not elsewhere established, for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022?

Article 4: Shall the Town vote to fix **September 24, 2021** or thirty days after the taxes are committed, whichever is later, and **February 25, 2022** as the dates upon each of which one-half of the property taxes are due and payable, and as the dates from which interest will be charged on any unpaid taxes at a rate of 6% per year, which is the State rate pursuant to Title 36 MRSA, 505.4?

Article 5: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Tax Collector to **Pay Interest** at a rate of 4% , which is the same as the State Rate of 4% , from the date of overpayment, on any taxes paid and later abated pursuant to Title 36 MRSA, § 506 & 506A?

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers, **If an Article Fails**, to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount in each operational budget category that the town is legally obligated to pay, of the last year's approved budgeted amount during the period July 1, 2021 to October 1, 2021?

Article 7: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$ 620,098** for the **Administration** budget category for the following budget lines with **Grant Writing, Heating Assistance and Attorney Fees** unexpended balances to be carried forward?

Municipal Administration	\$321,375
Insurance	\$150,913
Office Equipment	\$ 6,720
Assessing	\$ 23,675

CEO/LPI/BI	\$ 76,715
Planning Board	\$ 1,100
Appeals Board	\$ 100
Grant Writing/Planning Ser.	\$ 12,000
Heating Assistance	\$ 2,500
Attorney Fees	\$ 25,000

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 8: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$144,915** for the **Municipal Maintenance** budget category?

General Maintenance	\$ 100,765
Building Maintenance	\$ 35,900
Vehicles Maintenance	\$ 8,250

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 9: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$75,466** for the **Community Services** budget category for the following budget lines, with the unexpended balance of the Age Friendly and Library budget line carried forward?

Animal Control	\$ 14,445
Kennebec Land Trust	\$ 250
Kennebec Valley Council of Governments	\$ 4,500
Age Friendly Initiatives	\$ 2,100
Library Services	\$ 37,666
Readfield TV	\$ 7,085
Street Lights	\$ 4,000
Broadband	\$ 5,000
Maranacook Lake Dam	\$ 420

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 10: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$50,321** for the **Recreation, Parks, Activities and Open Space** budget category for the following budget lines with any unexpended balances to be carried forward?

Beach	\$ 17,235
Recreation	\$ 18,586
Heritage Days	\$ 5,000
Conservation	\$ 6,250
Town Properties	\$ 2,750
Trails	\$ 500

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 11: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$154,335** for the **Protection Department** budget category for the following budget lines with the any unexpended balances to carry forward from Fire Department Operations and Tower Sites into capital reserve account?

Fire Department Operating	\$ 74,425
Ambulance Service	\$ 38,110
Tower Sites	\$ 4,550
Dispatching	\$ 36,750
Emergency Operations	\$ 500

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 12: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$22,700** for the **Cemetery Materials & Services** budget category, with any unexpended balances to carry forward?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 13: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$417,850** for the **Roads & Drainage** budget category for the following budget lines with any unexpended balance to be carried forward for the Summer Roads budget?

Summer Road Maintenance	\$ 125,200
Winter Road Maintenance	\$ 292,650

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 14: Shall the Select Board of the Town be authorized to enter into one or more agreements providing for (a) capital improvements to the Fire Station, Library and Road Improvements (b) borrowing on behalf of the Town, a sum not to exceed **\$395,000** on such terms as it determines are necessary and proper pursuant to 30-A M.R.S.A. §5772 and other applicable Maine law, including the interest rate and the principal payment dates, for the purpose of appropriating funds to pay all or a portion of the costs of capital improvements to the Fire Station, Library and Roads?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

#### MUNICIPAL TREASURER'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT

##### 1. Town Indebtedness

A. Bonds outstanding and unpaid:	\$939,372.03
B. Bonds authorized and unissued:	\$ 0.00
C. Bonds to be issued if Article 14 is approved:	\$395,000.00
Total:	\$1,334,372.03

##### Costs- Warrant Article 14 Town Building Improvements and Paving

At an estimated interest rate of two and one-half percent (2.5%) for a term of fifteen (15) years, the estimated cost of this bond issue will be:

A. Total Bond Principal:	\$395,000.00
B. Total Estimated Interest:	\$ 81,115.74
C. Total Estimated Debt Service:	\$476,115.74

2. **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 by the electors is nevertheless conclusive and the validity of the bond issue is not affected by reason of the variance.

3. **Debt Limit-** In accordance with 30-A M.R.S.A. §5701 & §5702, a municipality may not borrow funds if the borrowing would cause the municipality to exceed its debt limit.

A. 2021 State Valuation:	\$301,400,000
B. Limit Factor:	x 7.5%
C. Debt Limit:	\$22,605,000.00

Prepared by: Eric W. Dyer, Treasurer

Article 15: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$892,858** for the **Capital Improvements** budget category for the following budget lines with all accounts to be carried forward?

Fire Dept.	\$ 10,000
Fire Station Addition	\$ 200,000
Gile Hall	\$ 10,000
Parks & Recreation	\$ 75,000
Library Building	\$ 50,000
Open Space	\$ 10,000
Cemetery	\$ 5,000
Sidewalk	\$ 45,000
Roads	\$ 422,000
Equipment	\$ 15,000
Equipment Leases	\$ 6,177
Transfer Station	\$ 44,681

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 16: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$323,665** for the **Solid Waste** budget category with all accounts to be carried forward?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 17: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$49,000** for the **Regional Assessments** budget category for

the following budget lines which the town is legally bound to pay?

Cobbossee Watershed	\$ 24,000
First Park	\$ 25,000

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 18: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$310,000** for the **Kennebec County Tax** budget category which the town is legally bound to pay?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 19: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$125,224** for the **Debt Service** budget category for the following budget lines which the town are legally bound to pay?

2016 Fire Truck Bond	\$ 54,132
2018 Maranacook Lake Dam Bond	\$ 19,242
2020 Municipal Building Bond	\$ 46,442
2021 Municipal Building and Paving	\$ 5,408

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 20: Shall the Town vote to appropriate **\$10,000** for **Local Tax Relief** budget category, with any unexpended balances to be carried forward?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 21: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the requested amount of **\$1,000** for the **Kennebec Behavioral Health**?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 22: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the requested amount of **\$1,513** for the **Central Maine Agency on Aging/Cohen Center/Senior Spectrum**?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 23: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the requested amount of **\$1,250** for the **Family Violence Agency**?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 24: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the requested amount of **\$2,362** for the Courtesy Boat Inspection Program, with **\$1,575** for the **Maranacook Lake Association** and **\$787** for the **Torsey Pond Association**?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 25: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the requested amount of **\$910** for the **Sexual Assault Agency**?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 26: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the requested amount of **\$2,500** for the **30 Mile River Association**?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 27: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the requested amount of **\$5,000** for continued restoration of the **Readfield Union Meeting House**?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 28: Shall the Town vote to appropriate **\$1,569** paid to the Town by the State (based on snowmobile

registrations) for the **Readfield Blizzard Busters Snowmobile Club** to be used for trail creation and maintenance?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 29: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$70,000** for the **Unclassified** budget category for the following budget lines with Readfield Enterprise Fund and Revaluation unexpended balance to carry forward?

Readfield Enterprise Fund	\$10,000
Real Estate Property Revaluation	\$10,000
Overdraft	\$ 5,000
Abatements	\$45,000

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 30: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$10,000** for the **General Assistance** budget category?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 31: Shall the Town vote to authorize **Expenditure of Revenues** from Federal, State, and private grant sources for those purposes for which the grant is intended?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 32: Shall the Town vote to accept the following **Estimated Revenues** to reduce the 2021 Tax Commitment?

State Revenue Sharing	\$ 225,000
Interest on Property Taxes	\$ 30,000
Interest on Investments	\$ 6,000
Veterans Exemption	\$ 4,000
Homestead Exempt. Reimbursement	\$ 211,911
Tree Growth Reimbursement	\$ 9,000
BETE Reimbursement	\$ 6,955
Boat Excise Taxes	\$ 7,500
Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes	\$ 575,000
Agent Fees	\$ 9,000
Newsletter	\$ 100
Public Notice Fees	\$ 500
Business License Fees	\$ 50
Certified Copy Fees	\$ 1,500
Other Income	\$ 5,000
Heating	\$ 2,500
Plumbing Fees	\$ 5,000
Land Use Permit Fees	\$ 6,000
Inter local CEO/LPI	\$ 36,135
Fuel Tax Reimbursement	\$ 200
Dog License Fees	\$ 2,500
Rabies Clinic	\$ 1,000
Library Revenue	\$ 3,167
Cable Television Fees	\$ 30,000
Beach Income	\$ 3,500
Recreation Income	\$ 14,210
Heritage Days	\$ 500
Protection	\$ 3,450
Local Roads	\$ 32,000
Bond Proceeds	\$ 395,000
Ballfields Donations	\$ 45,000
Sidewalks	\$ 36,000
Transfer Station Capital	\$ 14,533
Transfer Station	\$ 216,838
First Park	\$ 25,000
Snowmobile (State reimb.)	\$ 1,569

Enterprise Fund	\$ 2,000
General Assistance (State reimb.)	\$ 5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,972,618</b>

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 33: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the following **Designated Funds** to reduce the 2021 Tax Commitment?

Conservation	\$ 5,450
Local Tax Relief	\$ 10,000
Municipal Building Bond	\$ 25,000
Readfield Enterprise Fund	\$ 8,000
Recreation	\$ 5,000
Roads Operating	\$ 50,000
Sidewalk Capital	\$ 9,000
Transfer Station Capital	\$ 19,820
Trust Funds Cemetery Perpetual Care	\$ 6,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$138,270</b>

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 34: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to expend up to **\$25,000** from the **Unassigned Fund Balance** (General Fund), in the aggregate for one or more purposes as necessary to meet contingencies that may occur during the ensuing fiscal year?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 35: Shall the Town vote to appropriate **\$225,000** from the **Unassigned Fund Balance** to **reduce the total tax commitment**?

*Select Board recommends: Yes      Budget Committee recommends:*

Article 36: Shall the Town vote to transfer **\$10,000** from the **Cemeteries Operating Reserve** to the **Cemeteries Capital Reserve Account**?

Article 37: Shall an ordinance entitled Town of Readfield **Solar Ordinance**, be enacted? (A copy of said Ordinance is attached to this Warrant.)

Article 38: Shall an ordinance entitled 2021 Amendments to the Town of Readfield **Land Use Ordinance**, be enacted? (A copy of said Ordinance is attached to this Warrant.)

Article 39: Pursuant to 30-A M.R.S. § 2501(3), Shall the Town vote to be governed by Title 21-A, § 696(2)(C) and Title 21-A, § 722-A, intending that votes for write-in candidates in municipal elections beginning with the 2022 Annual Town Meeting will be counted only if each write-in candidate has filed a timely declaration of write-in candidacy with the Municipal Clerk.

Article 40: The following is a non-binding question to establish interest and guidance for future town considerations: Should the Select Board in 2021 and 2022 pursue the establishment of a fiber to the home high speed internet network available to all residents?

Article 41: To see if the town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey to state legislators, Members of Congress, Governor, and President of the United States that the town hereby calls upon our Federal elected representatives to enact carbon-pricing legislation to protect Maine from the costs and environmental risks of continued climate inaction. To protect households, we support Cash-Back Carbon Pricing that charges fossil fuel producers for their carbon pollution and rebates the money collected to all residents on an equal basis with monthly dividend checks. The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice to the above mentioned parties by the Board of Selectmen within 30 days of this vote.

Article 42: Should the Town continue to use the **Secret Ballot** process for the 2022 Annual Town Meeting?

Voted & Approved on \_\_\_\_\_, 2021 by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce Bourgoine, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis Price, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ralph Eno

\_\_\_\_\_  
Christine Sammons

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathryn Mills Woodsum

A true copy of the warrant,

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kristin Parks, Interim Town Clerk  
Town of Readfield