

Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Secret Ballot

Tuesday, June 13, 2017

To: Kristin Parks, 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 Town Hall in said Town on Tuesday, the 13th day of June, A.D. 2017, 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 to preside at said meeting and to vote by written ballot.

Article 2:

Elect one Select Board members for three year terms:

☐ Price, Dennis

☐ Write in: _____

Elect one RSU #38 School Board member for a one year term:

☐ Sneed, Thomas

☐ Write in: _____

Elect one RSU #38 School Board member for a three year term:

☐ Woodford, Adam

☐ Write in: _____

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

☐ Write in: _____

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

☐ Write in: _____

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

☐ Write in: _____

Article 3: Shall the Town vote to confirm the term for Select Board elected on this day and at subsequent elections as being from the day of election until the day of the next election, effective 90 days from this vote?

Article 4: 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, 2017 through June 30, 2018?

Article 5: Shall the Town vote to fix **September 29, 2017** or thirty days after the taxes are committed, whichever is later, and **February 28, 2018** as the dates of 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 **7%** per year, which is the State rate pursuant to Title 36 MRSA, 505.4?

Article 6: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Tax Collector to **Pay Interest** at a rate of 3% , which is lower than the State Rate of 7% , from the date of overpayment, on any taxes paid and later abated pursuant to Title 36 MRSA, § 506 & 506A?

Article 7: 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, 2017 to October 1, 2017?

Article 8: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$458,085** for the **General Government for Administration, Insurance, Office Equipment, Assessing, CEO/LPI/BI, Grant Writing and Heating Assistance** budget category for the following budget lines with **Grant Writing and Heating Assistance** unexpended balances to be carried forward?

Municipal Administration	\$259,945- <i>All postage, office supplies and copying expenses are now under this budget line, other area has been reduced with the exception of the Transfer Station Operations.</i>
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Insurance	\$128,130 – <i>All insurances are now in this budget line, other budget lines has been reduced with the exception of the Transfer Station Operations.</i>
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Office Equipment	\$ 3,350
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Assessing	\$ 24,655 – <i>Returning to past years level of services</i>
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CEO/LPI/BI	\$ 36,505 - <i>\$10,000 from revenues, adding 4 hours per week.</i>
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Grant Writing/Planning Ser.	\$ 4,000
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Heating Assistance	\$ 1,500 - <i>\$1,500 from revenues</i>
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Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 9: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$169,895** for the **Municipal Maintenance** budget category? ***Combined all maintenance budget categories.***

General Maintenance	\$ 83,825
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Building Maintenance	\$ 29,470
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Vehicles Maintenance	\$ 46,600 – <i>Moved from Roads/Drainage</i>
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Interlocal Work	\$ 10,000 – <i>Moved from Roads/Drainage</i>
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Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 10: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$9,300** for the **Boards and Commissions** budget category for the following budget lines, with unexpended balance of the Conservation budget line carried forward?

Appeals Board	\$ 100
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Conservation Commission	\$ 7,750 - <i>\$7,050 from designated fund</i>
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Planning Board	\$ 1,450
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Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 11: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$57,135** for the **Community Services** budget category for the following budget lines, with the unexpended balance of the Library budget line carried forward?

Age Friendly Initiatives	\$ 2,000 – <i>New for 2017-18</i>
Animal Control	\$ 11,420 <i>-\$1,500 from revenues</i>
Kennebec Land Trust	\$ 250
KVCOG	\$ 4,295
Library Services	\$ 26,090 <i>-\$2,080 from revenues</i>
Readfield TV	\$ 6,830 <i>-\$6,830 from revenues</i>
Street Lights	\$ 6,000
Maranacook Lake Dam	\$ 250

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 12: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$40,486** for the **Recreation, Parks and Activities** budget category for the following budget lines with any unexpended balances to be carried forward?

Beach	\$ 9,142 <i>-\$9,142 from revenues</i>
Recreation	\$ 10,561 <i>-\$10,560 from revenues</i>
Trails	\$ 2,483
Heritage Days	\$ 10,000 <i>-\$5,000 from designated fund</i>
Millstream Dam Project	\$ 8,300 <i>-\$6,221 from designated fund and \$2,079 from revenues. New for 2017-18</i>

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 13: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$180,875** for the **Protection Department** budget category for the following budget lines with any unexpended balances to carry forward with the exception of the Ambulance Service, Dispatching and Emergency Operations Plan lines?

Operations Fire Department	\$ 87,650 <i>-\$20,000 from designated fund</i>
Fire Dept. Equipment	\$ 8,000
Ambulance Service	\$ 25,400
Waterholes	\$ 500
Tower Sites	\$ 27,000 <i>-\$25,000 from revenues</i>
Dispatching	\$ 30,200
Annual Physicals	\$ 125 <i>-\$125 from designated fund</i>
Personal Protective Gear Replacement	\$ 2,000

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 14: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$16,050** for the **Cemetery Materials & Services** budget category, with any unexpended balances to carry forward? *Took payroll out of this category and included it in Municipal Maintenance.*

Select Board recommends: yes
Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 15: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$373,950** for the **Roads & Drainage** budget category for the following budget lines with any unexpended balance to be carried forward for the Summer Roads budget? ***Vehicle Maintenance and Interlocal Work are now included in Municipal Maintenance. Potential Sidewalk project moved to Capital Improvements. This item includes an estimated \$70,000 for gravel Road work.***

Summer Road Maintenance	\$117,500 - \$35,000 from revenues
Winter Road Maintenance	\$256,450

Select Board recommends: yes
Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 16: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$260,812** for the **Capital Improvements** budget category for the following budget lines with all accounts to be carried forward? ***Gile Hall funds are for accessibility (ADA) improvements to the front walk and parking area. Transfer Station funds are for reserve and current year access road work. The Dam project will likely require future expenditures to complete.***

Roads	\$ 15,000
Equipment	\$ 5,000
Gile Hall	\$ 24,000 - \$24,000 from designated fund
Parks/Recreation	\$ 7,762 - \$7,762 from designated
Transfer Station	\$ 39,050 - \$20,000 from designated and \$10,975 from revenues
Maranacook Lake Dam	\$125,000 - \$45,660 from designated fund

Select Board recommends: yes
Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 17: Shall the Town vote to appropriate **\$45,000** from the Summer Roads reserve account as a **potential** grant match for a **sidewalk project** to be considered at a future Town Meeting, to improve safety and access on Church Road? ***The \$45,000 is a placeholder amount, not a commitment to execute a project. If the grant is not approved, or if the voters do not approve the project, the money will be returned to the reserve account. The project cannot be considered by Maine Department of Transportation without the town showing baseline interest through this appropriation.***

Select Board recommends: yes
Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 18: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$282,576** for the **Solid Waste Department** budget category with all accounts to be carried forward? ***\$181,636 from revenues***

Select Board recommends: yes
Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 19: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$317,600** for the **Regional Assessments**

budget category for the following budget lines which the town are legally bound to pay?

Cobbossee Watershed	\$ 22,000
Kennebec County Tax	\$270,000
First Park	\$ 25,600 <i>-\$10,000 from revenues</i>

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 20: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$328,824** for the **Debt Service** budget category for the following budget lines which the town are legally bound to pay?

2015 Fire Truck Bond/Lease	\$ 56,857
2013 Road & Bridge Bond	\$109,117
2008 Road & Bridge Bond	\$162,850

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 21: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the amount equal to that paid to the Town by the State (based on snowmobile registrations) for the **Readfield Blizzard Busters Snowmobile Club** to be used for trail creation, maintenance and grooming? *\$940.00 from revenues*

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 22: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the requested amount of **\$1,441** for the **Central Maine Agency on Aging/Cohen Center/Senior Spectrum?**

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 23: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the requested amount of **\$1,000** for the **Family Violence Agency?**

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 24: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the requested amount of **\$2,250** for the Courtesy Boat Inspection Program to the **Maranacook Lake Association** for **\$1,500** and the **Torsey Pond Association** for **\$750** on Maranacook Lake and Torsey Pond?

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

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: yes

Article 26: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the requested amount of **\$231** for the **30 Mile River Association**?

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

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: yes

Article 28: Shall the Town vote to appropriate **\$10,000** for the **Readfield Enterprise Fund** budget category with any balance to be carried forward?

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 29: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$10,000** for a **Real Estate Property Revaluation** with any unexpended balance to carry forward?

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 30: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate **\$4,650** for the **General Assistance** budget category?

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 31: Shall the Town vote to appropriate funds not to exceed **\$5,000** to cover Overdrafts from the Unassigned Fund Balance?

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 32: Shall the Town vote to authorize **Expenditure of Revenues** from Federal, State, Local and private sources (including user fees), in those categories for which the revenue was intended (if no use is identified, the funds shall be deposited with the General Fund), in addition to the amounts appropriated previously in these articles?

Article 33: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the following **Estimated Revenues** to reduce the 2017 Tax Commitment?

State Revenue Sharing	\$135,000
Interest on Property Taxes	\$ 20,000
Interest on Investments	\$ 3,000

Veterans Exemption	\$ 3,200
Homestead Exempt. Reimbursement	\$184,330
Tree Growth Reimbursement	\$ 9,800
BETE Reimbursement	\$ 9,161
Boat Excise Taxes	\$ 7,500
Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes	\$460,000
Agent Fees	\$ 9,500
Newsletter	\$ 250
Certified Copy Fees	\$ 1,300
Other Income	\$ 500
Heating	\$ 1,500
Plumbing fees	\$ 5,000
Land Use Permit Fees	\$ 6,000
Dog License Fees	\$ 1,500
Library Revenue	\$ 2,080
Cable Television Fees	\$ 26,000
Beach Income	\$ 9,142
Recreation Income	\$ 10,561
Mill Stream Dam/Factory Sq	\$ 2,079
Protection	\$ 25,000
Local Roads	\$ 35,000
Interlocal	\$ 10,000
Transfer Station Capital	\$ 10,975
Transfer Station	\$181,636
First Park	\$ 10,000
Snowmobile (State reimb.)	\$ 940
Readfield Enterprise Fund	\$ 10,000
General Assistance (State reimb.)	<u>\$ 2,325</u>
Total	\$1,193,279

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 34: Shall the Town vote to appropriate the following **Designated Funds** to reduce the 2017 Tax Commitment? *The amounts below can be seen in context under several prior articles where “from designated fund”*

Parks/Recreation Capital	\$ 2,762
Cemetery Trust Fund	\$ 4,000
Conservation	\$ 7,050
Fire Dept. Equipment	\$ 20,000
Fire Dept. Physicals	\$ 125
Gile Hall Capital	\$ 24,000
Heritage Days	\$ 5,000
Maranacook Dam Capital	\$ 45,660
Mill Stream Dam Project	\$ 6,221
Recreation	\$ 5,000
Transfer Station Capital	<u>\$ 20,000</u>
Total	\$139,818

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 35: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to expend up to **Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000)** from the **Unassigned Fund Balance** (General Fund), in the aggregate for one or more purposes, to meet contingencies that may occur during the ensuing fiscal year?

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 36: Shall the Town vote to appropriate **\$187,731** from the **Unassigned Fund Balance** to **reduce the total tax commitment**?

Select Board recommends: yes

Budget Committee recommends: yes

Article 37: To see if the Town will vote to enter into an **inter-local agreement** in partnership with the Town of Fayette and Wayne for the use and operation of the Readfield Transfer Station. *A one-year interim agreement was approved by voters last year and subsequent negotiations have led to the proposal of a three-year cooperative agreement. Legal review has been completed and the Town of Fayette has authorized their Select Board to enter into the agreement.*

Article 38: Shall the Town vote to amend the **Administration Ordinance**, and be enacted? *Changes to this Ordinance address a number of issues ranging from correcting ambiguous language to the disbursement of municipal funds. Legal review has been completed.*

Article 39: Shall the Town vote to amend the **Land Use Ordinance**, and be enacted? *Changes to this Ordinance clarify language, add definitions, and also resolve conflicting language that results from the creation of a separate Board of Appeals Ordinance (see below). Legal review has been completed.*

Article 40: Shall the Town vote to accept and adopt the language in the **Board of Appeals Ordinance**? *This is a new ordinance derived from sections of our Land Use Ordinance, Town Meeting articles from 1973, current state statute, and current ordinances in other municipalities. The Ordinance was recommended by our legal counsel and requested by the Select Board to address a wide range of issues with the original language from 1973. Legal review has been completed.*

Article 41: Shall the town vote to accept and adopt the language in the **P.A.C.E Ordinance**? *P.A.C.E. stands for Property Assessed Clean Energy. This is a new ordinance that allows residents to access home energy improvement financing to achieve meaningful energy savings and to make cost-effective energy improvements. Legal review has been completed.*

Article 42: Should the Town continue to use the **Secret Ballot** process for the 2018 Annual Town Meeting?