



TOWN OF READFIELD

OLD KENTS HILL ROAD, READFIELD, MAINE 04355

Office Telephone (207) 685-4939

Website: www.readfieldmaine.org

May 1, 2021

Dear Readfield Resident,

Transparency in government is critically important and this mailing is intended to provide you with local voting information. During the past year we experienced many different impacts of governing while being aware of and following COVID-19 restrictions and guidance for everyone's safety. The Select Board, Budget Committee, Planning Board, and the many town committees and officials involved in the development of our warrant, ordinances, and questions strove to gather public input as we kept our process openly moving via online meetings and hearings along with listening to the public at any opportunity.

This mailing includes the Warrant Articles that will be considered at the Annual Town Meeting / Secret Ballot Vote along with brief explanations and clarification on budgetary and policy matters. The warrant articles are in a standard font, while the notes and comments are in *bold italics*.

In-person secret ballot voting will be held at the Kents Hill School - Alford Athletic Center, 1617 Main St. Absentee voting is strongly encouraged as a matter of public health and absentee ballots will be available from the Town Office after May 10. Additional information on absentee voting can be found on the town website or by contacting the Town Office. Similarly, detailed information on the municipal budget can also be found through these channels.

- Readfield Town Website: www.readfieldmaine.org,
- Readfield Town Office Main Phone Line: 685-4939
- Readfield Town Manager (for most budget questions): manager@readfieldmaine.org or 685-1818
- Readfield Town Clerk (for most voting questions): clerk@readfieldmaine.org or 685-1816

Another excellent source of budget and warrant information is the Fiscal Year 2022 Municipal Budget and Warrant Public Hearing at 6:30pm on May 13th at the Town Office. Here's how it will work:

- The event will be live but there will be a seating limit of 24 due to following COVID-19 precautions.
- The event will be also be broadcast on cable channel 7, and potentially on Facebook or YouTube.
- The viewing public may participate by calling (929) 436-2866 or using the online ZOOM platform with Meeting ID: 881 4960 8367 and Passcode: 781405.
- Residents without internet or long-distance phone service are welcome to call 685-1813 with questions or comments.
- Reasonable comment time limits will be applied and will be accepted from Readfield residents.

The municipal budget is set to decline slightly and there are many important warrant articles to consider this year. Please take a moment to review this document and utilize other available resources. Thank you for your participation and engagement during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

Bruce Bourgoine,
Chair, Readfield Select Board

June 8, 2021 Annual Town Meeting/Secret Ballot Vote Warrant Articles and Notes

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:

- Doorenbos, Carol

- Keegan, Sean

- Neily, Aaron

- Write in: _____

- Write in: _____

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

- Gordon, Patricia

- Roderick, Shawn

- 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? ***Due dates are similar to past years. The rate is the State's maximum allowable interest rate.***

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? ***If not voted in the rate would default to the State's maximum allowable interest rate, which is 6%. Last year it was voted in at 5%.***

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

* **Heating Assistance is funded by donations and bottles/can donation at the Transfer Station (zero tax dollars).**

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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

Covers utilities and maintenance of Town buildings, grounds, and equipment.

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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	Offset by 3,500 in revenues.
Kennebec Land Trust	\$ 250	Membership
Kennebec Valley Council of Governments	\$ 4,500	Membership for the regional entity/service provider.
Age Friendly Initiatives	\$ 2,100	
Library Services	\$ 37,666	Offset by 3,167 in revenues.
Readfield TV	\$ 7,085	Offset by 30,000 in revenues.
Street Lights	\$ 4,000	Decreased as a result of LED fixture installation.
Broadband	\$ 5,000	Funds for consulting services.
Maranacook Lake Dam	\$ 420	Utilities and maintenance.

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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	Offset by 3,500 in revenues.
Recreation	\$ 18,586	Offset by 14,210 in revenues.
Heritage Days	\$ 5,000	Offset by \$500 in revenues.
Conservation	\$ 6,250	Offset by 5,450 in reserves.
Town Properties	\$ 2,750	
Trails	\$ 500	

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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	Offset by \$250 in revenue.
Ambulance Service	\$ 38,110	
Tower Sites	\$ 4,550	Offset by \$3,200 in revenue.
Dispatching	\$ 36,750	
Emergency Operations	\$ 500	

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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? **Offset by \$6,000 from Trust Fund Perpetual Care.**

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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	Road grading, crack sealing, tree work, etc. Offset
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Winter Road Maintenance

by \$32,500 in revenues.
\$ 292,650 *Plowing contract, winter salt. Offset by \$50,000 in reserves*

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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? ***This bond will allow for the installation of a fire suppression (sprinkler) system at the Fire Station, installation of second floor egress stairs and other improvements at the Library, and supplemental paving work on town roads.***

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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	<i>Equipment reserve.</i>
Fire Station Addition	\$ 200,000	<i>Offset by \$175,000 bond revenue from article 14, if approved, and \$25,000 from reserves. For full building sprinkler system.</i>
Gile Hall	\$ 10,000	<i>Capital reserve.</i>
Parks & Recreation	\$ 75,000	<i>Offset by \$45,000 in revenues and \$5,000 in reserve. Ballfield and Beach planning and improvements.</i>
Library Building	\$ 50,000	<i>Offset by bond revenue from article 14, if approved. For 2nd floor egress and other improvements.</i>
Open Space	\$ 10,000	<i>To protect open space and farmland.</i>
Cemetery	\$ 5,000	<i>Reserve for future repairs and maintenance.</i>
Sidewalk	\$ 45,000	<i>Offset by \$36,000 in grant funds & \$9,000 reserves. Engineering and design for Church Road sidewalk.</i>
Roads	\$ 422,000	<i>Offset by \$145,000 bond revenue from Article 14, if approved.</i>
Equipment	\$ 15,000	<i>For vehicle and equipment replacement.</i>

Equipment Leases	\$ 6,177	<i>Maintenance pickup truck lease.</i>
Transfer Station	\$ 44,681	<i>TS equipment leases, general facility reserve. Offset by \$14,533 in revenue from Fayette and Wayne and \$19,820 in reserves.</i>

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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? ***Offset by \$216,838 revenues including Fayette and Wayne's share.***

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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	<i>Offset by \$25,000 revenues.</i>

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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? ***The County is an independent taxing authority.***

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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	<i>Final Payment 11/2023.</i>
2018 Maranacook Lake Dam Bond	\$ 19,242	<i>Final Payment 5/2029.</i>
2020 Municipal Building Bond	\$ 46,442	<i>Final Payment 11/2035.</i>
2021 Municipal Building and Paving	\$ 5,408	<i>If approved by Article 14, final payment in 2036.</i>

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

Article 21: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the requested amount of \$1,000 for the Kennebec Behavioral Health? ***On warrant by signed petition dated 2009.***

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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? ***On warrant by signed petition dated 2009.***

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

Article 23: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the requested amount of \$1,250 for the Family Violence Agency? ***On warrant by signed petition dated 2009.***

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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? ***On warrant by signed petition dated 2012.***

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?
On warrant by signed petition dated 2012.

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

Article 26: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the requested amount of \$2,500 for the 30 Mile River Association? ***On warrant by signed petition dated 2018.***

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? ***On warrant by signed petition dated 2017.***

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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? ***On warrant by signed petition dated 2009. Offset by revenues.***

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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	<i>Offset by \$8,000 in designated funds and \$2,000 in revenue.</i>
Real Estate Property Revaluation	\$10,000	<i>Reserve account for future revaluation.</i>
Overdraft	\$ 5,000	<i>To address any unaccounted for overdrafts.</i>
Abatements	\$45,000	<i>Increased in response to COVID-19.</i>

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

Article 30: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 for the General Assistance budget category? ***Increased in response to financial impacts from COVID-19. Offset by \$5,000 in revenues.***

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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? ***Allows the Select Board to accept and expend grant funds.***

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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	<i>Money collected from Transfer Station bottles/cans.</i>
Plumbing Fees	\$ 5,000	
Land Use Permit Fees	\$ 6,000	
Inter local CEO/LPI	\$ 36,135	<i>Wayne's portion of our shared Code Officer.</i>
Fuel Tax Reimbursement	\$ 200	
Dog License Fees	\$ 2,500	
Rabies Clinic	\$ 1,000	
Library Revenue	\$ 3,167	
Cable Television Fees	\$ 30,000	<i>From SPECTRUM subscriber fees.</i>
Beach Income	\$ 3,500	
Recreation Income	\$ 14,210	
Heritage Days	\$ 500	
Protection	\$ 3,450	
Local Roads	\$ 32,000	<i>State funds.</i>
Bond Proceeds	\$ 395,000	<i>From bond under Article 14, if approved.</i>
Ballfields Donations	\$ 45,000	<i>Anticipated donations for Ballfield construction.</i>
Sidewalks	\$ 36,000	<i>Maine DOT grant for engineering and design.</i>
Transfer Station Capital	\$ 14,533	<i>Fayette & Wayne share.</i>
Transfer Station	\$ 216,838	<i>Operating Revenue, \$145,338 from Fayette & Wayne.</i>
First Park	\$ 25,000	<i>This represents a break-even offset of expenses.</i>
Snowmobile (State reimb.)	\$ 1,569	<i>State reimbursement.</i>
Enterprise Fund	\$ 2,000	<i>Repayment of outstanding business loans.</i>
General Assistance (State reimb.)	\$ 5,000	<i>State reimbursement.</i>
Total	\$1,972,618	

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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
Total	\$138,270

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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? ***This article sets aside a small contingency to be used for emergencies or unanticipated financial needs.***

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

Article 35: Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$225,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance to reduce the total tax commitment? ***This use of funds to reduce taxes is estimated to be close to the threshold for our unassigned fund balance policy.***

Select Board recommends: Yes Budget Committee recommends: Yes

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

NOTE ON ORDINANCES AND ORDINANCE REVISIONS: Due to size constraints the full text of new ordinance language and ordinance revision language was not included with this mailing. They can be found on the Town Website at www.readfieldmaine.org or by contacting the Town Office at 685-4939.

Article 37: Shall an ordinance entitled Town of Readfield Solar Ordinance, be enacted? (A copy of said Ordinance is attached to this Warrant.) *In order to separately address solar projects which have issues somewhat distinct from other land use activities, there is a proposed new ordinance to set standards for small, medium and large scale solar projects. These standards are intended to:*

- a. *Establish clear guidelines, standards and time frames for the Town to regulate Solar Energy Systems;*
- b. *Permit the Town to fairly and responsibly protect public health, safety and welfare;*
- c. *Minimize any potential adverse effect of solar development on surrounding land use;*
- d. *Provide for the decommissioning/removal of panels and associated utility structures that are no longer being used for energy generation and transmission purposes; and*
- e. *Support the goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan, including orderly development, efficient use of infrastructure, and protection of natural, scenic, and agricultural resources.*

For example, these standards will insure that after the useful life of a solar project, the town will not be left with fields of abandoned solar panels, but rather the land will be returned to its original condition when no longer used for energy generation.

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.) *These changes amend and clarify the existing Land Use Ordinance.*

1. Non-Conforming Structures (Structures that do not meet current setbacks and other requirements. Current rules allow for some expansion, reconstruction or relocation)

Proposed Changes to Non-Conforming Structures: Article 3, Section 4 of LUO

- *A number of grammatical and reorganizing changes are proposed to current rules regarding expansions, relocations or reconstruction of non-conforming structures, in order to improve readability and clarity.*
- *Clarifies that if any portion of a non-conforming structure is located within the 100 foot setback, or less, then the entire structure may not be expanded beyond the limits allowed in the most restrictive set back area.*
 - *For example, if the structure straddles both the 25-75 foot waterbody/wetland set back, where total floor area of the structure may not be expanded beyond 1000 square feet and the structure is also within the 75-100 foot set back zone where the total floor area limit is 1500 square feet, then the entire structure is limited to the 1000 square foot limit.*
- *Allows for up to a 50% reduction in side and rear setbacks for non-conforming structures and expansions if this reduction would increase the distance that the structure is from the waterbody. This can only be done if the abutter does not object and if otherwise consistent with the LUO.*
 - *For Example: Required setbacks are: 100 feet from water, 20 feet from side property lines, and 50 feet from roads. An existing non-conforming house/foundation is 30 feet from the water and meets all other setbacks. Proposal is to move the house/foundation back to 90 feet from the water, a gain of 60 feet in conformity. However, to achieve this, the house/foundation will now be 15 feet from each side setback and 40 feet from the road. That is an increase in non-conformity of 20 feet (5+5+10), for a net gain of 40 feet in conformity (60-20). This results in an increase in the setback from the water and an increase in the total sum of all setbacks.*

2. Table of Uses and Definitions

Proposed Changes to Table of Uses and Definitions (Articles 7 and 11)

- *Current definitions in Article 11 do not contain a definition of “service business.” The proposed changes include a common definition of service business.*
- *Definition of “Community Center or Club” is revised to clarify an ambiguity as to whether a community center or club is limited to members and member’s guests only. Under the proposed revised definition, this restriction is lifted. The proposed definition also clarifies that community centers or clubs can engage in fund raising activities. These changes make it easier for community centers and clubs to operate in the Village, Academic and Rural districts.*

- *The Table of Uses is proposed to be changed, clarifying that community centers and club uses are not permitted in the rural residential district. (This activity is already expressly prohibited in other primarily residential districts such as Village Residential and Shoreland Residential.) This change is made because such activities are often commercial in nature, may have a negative impact in terms of traffic, noise, odor, etc., and therefore are not compatible with the quiet residential character of residential districts. This change aligns uses in the Rural Residential district with other primarily residential districts, such as the Village Residential and the Shoreland Residential district.*

3. **Commercial and Industrial District Changes**

- *Readfield’s LUO does not provide for a designated district for large scale commercial or industrial structures (i.e. structures over 5000 square feet). Instead, the LUO provides for a “floating” district allowing for such activities if approved through a town-wide vote. Because large scale “infrastructure” projects such as utility plants, etc. have the potential for a similar large impact, the proposed change would subject such projects to the same process as other large scale commercial and industrial projects.*

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. *This article allows for the more efficient counting of ballots and eliminates the need for staff and volunteers to count votes for undeclared write-in candidates and “prank” write-ins (“Mickey Mouse” and the like).*

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? *Non-Binding questions assist the town in understanding how to best plan and prioritize for Readfield's future.*

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? *This is an advisory vote that the Select Board will consider when determining whether to continue with secret ballot voting next year.*

***** **END OF TOWN MEETING WARRANT** *****

Want to meet some of the people who will help manage the budget and town activities? Candidate’s Night will be held on May 12th via ZOOM only, but will feature a classic call in show format! Select Board Candidates will participate from 6:30-7:30pm and School Board Candidates will participate from 7:30-8:30pm. Call in to (929) 436-2866 or launch ZOOM. Use Meeting ID: 881 4960 8367 and Passcode: 781405. Residents without internet or long-distance phone service are welcome to call 685-1813 with questions or comments.

Need help with your property taxes? Visit www.readfieldmaine.org and click on the “[Tax Information](#)” button to learn more about your tax bill and what exemptions and assistance may be available, including Readfield’s Local Tax Assistance Program, Homestead Exemptions, Veterans Exemptions, and Tax Abatements. Call or email Town Manager Eric Dyer with any questions at: 685-4939 or manager@readfieldmaine.org. Information on the State of Maine Property Tax Fairness Credit is available by emailing income.tax@maine.gov or calling 626-8475.

Want to know more about what’s happening in town? Visit www.readfieldmaine.org! We have a lot of great information available and a municipal calendar and news items right on the homepage. You can also sign up for “[E-Alerts](#)” - pick and choose what kinds of information you want to receive email updates on. Unsubscribe any time.



Town of Readfield
8 Old Kents Hill Rd.
Readfield, ME
04355

«NAME»
«ADDRESS_1»
«CITY_STATE_ZIP»

*** Important Municipal Election and Voting Information Enclosed ***

Town of Readfield Annual Town Meeting / Secret Ballot Vote

WHEN: June 8, 2021 from 8am until 8pm

WHERE: Kents Hill School, Alford Athletic Center, 1617 Main St

HOW: Absentee voting is encouraged, but in-person balloting will be available with precautions.

For more information on the budget, warrant, and absentee balloting please visit the town website at www.readfieldmaine.org or call the Town Office at 685-4939.

Budget and Warrant Public Hearing

WHEN: May 13, 2021 at 6:30pm

WHERE: Gile Hall (Town Office) 8 Old Kents Hill Rd. or via ZOOM

HOW: Online ZOOM Meeting ID: 881 4960 8367 and Passcode: 781405, or by calling (929) 436-2866 and using the same meeting credentials.