

2024 DURHAM TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES

To: Kimberly Garneau, a resident of the Town of Durham, Androscoggin County, 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 Durham in said county and state, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to assemble at The Durham Eureka Community Center, 606 Hallowell Road, Durham, Maine on Friday, April 5, 2024 at 7:45 a.m., then and there to act upon Article 1 and by secret ballot on Articles 2 as set out below. Polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Further, to notify and warn said inhabitants to assemble at Durham Community School on Saturday, April 6, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., then and there to act upon Articles 3 through 39 as set out to wit:

Article 1 To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Article 2 To elect all municipal officers, school committee members, and budget committee members as are required to be elected.

Article 3 To see if the town will allow non-residents, who have information pertaining to any following articles, to speak when recognized.

Article 4 To see if the Town of Durham will vote to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed the 2023 Durham Municipal Budget for any budget articles **not** approved in this warrant.

OVERSPENT ARTICLE

Article 5 To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer **\$3,235** from undesignated fund balance to cover Fire Department expenditures above the approved 2022 Fire Department budget.
Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

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OPERATING BUDGET ARTICLES

Article 6 To see if the Town will Vote to raise and appropriate **\$689,991** for General Government.

	<u>FY23 Appr</u>	<u>FY24 Req</u>
Administration	\$ 518,124	\$ 473,656
Municipal Buildings & Grounds	30,565	22,235
Assessing	21,000	22,800
Information Technology	52,000	47,000
Planning and Code Enforcement	56,420	124,300

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

Article 7 To see if the Town will Vote to raise and appropriate **\$622,495** for Public Safety.

	<u>FY23 Appr</u>	<u>FY24 Req</u>
Fire Department	\$ 522,470	\$ 603,845
Animal Control	18,600	18,650

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

Article 8 To see if the Town will Vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,843,228** for Public Works.

	<u>FY23 Appr</u>	<u>FY24 Req</u>
Public Works	\$ 1,338,920	\$ 1,454,228
Solid Waste	370,000	375,000
Tags	2,540	2000
Bulky Waste Day	12,000	12,000

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

Article 9 To see if the Town will Vote to raise and appropriate **\$16,700** for Community Services.

	<u>FY23 Appr</u>	<u>FY24 Req</u>
General Assistance	\$ 600	\$ 600
Durham Youth Baseball	2,500	2,500
Durham Snowmobile Trails	1,100	1,100
AMVETS (Generator)	0	2,500
Freeport Scholarship Fund	0	10,000

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

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Article 10 To see if the Town will Vote to raise and appropriate **\$780,349** for Debt Service.

	<u>FY23 Appr</u>	<u>FY24 Req</u>
Debt Service	958,394	780,349

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

ADDITIONS TO RESERVES ARTICLES

Article 11 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$180,000** for the Fire Department Capital Reserve.

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

Article 12 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$205,000** for the Public Works Department Capital Reserve.

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

Article 13 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$10,000** for the Municipal Buildings Capital Reserve.

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

Article 14 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$50,000** for the Eureka Community Center Reserve.

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

Article 15 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$160,000** for the Assessing and Revaluation Reserve.

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

Article 16 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$2,293** for the Grants Match Reserve.

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

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- Article 17** To see if the Town will Vote to raise and appropriate **\$9,543** for the Union Church Restoration Reserve.
Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

Explanatory Note: The monies in the Union Church Restoration Fund would be managed jointly by the Historical Society and the Town. Any expenditure from the Fund would be for maintenance, repair and/or restoration of the Church. All expenditures would be approved by the Select Board.

FUNDING SOURCES ARTICLES

- Article 18** To see if the Town will Vote to reduce the amounts authorized to be raised in taxes in Articles 6 through 17 by **\$2,562,114** based on estimates for non-tax municipal revenues.

	<u>FY23 Est</u>	<u>FY24 Est</u>
Excise Taxes	\$ 1,034,097	\$ 1,100,000
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	80,212	75,400
Intergovernmental Revenue	936,174	1,149,714
Charges for Services	163,703	172,000
Other Revenues	66,603	65,000
Total	\$2,280,789	\$2,562,114

Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

- Article 19** To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to appropriate up to **\$668,000** from the General Fund's existing fund balance to reduce the amounts authorized to be raised in taxes in Articles 6 through 17.

Select Board recommends \$668,000.
Budget Committee recommends \$628,475.

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RESERVE APPROPRIATIONS ARTICLES

(Note: The amounts approved in this section do not affect the amount of taxes being raised.)

- Article 20** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$9,130** from Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (aka American Rescue Plan or ARPA Funds) received by the Town from the federal government for the following project: Upgrades to the Eureka Community Center.
Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.
- Article 21** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$25,000** from Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (aka American Rescue Plan or ARPA Funds) received by the Town from the federal government for the following project: Computer Aided Dispatch for Emergency Vehicles
Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.
- Article 22** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$10,500** from Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (aka American Rescue Plan or ARPA Funds) received by the Town from the federal government for the following project: Codification of the Towns Land Use Ordinance
Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.
- Article 23** To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to appropriate funds upon the request of the Town Manager from the Town's reserves as they deem necessary for expenditures in accordance with the purpose of the reserves.
Select Board and Budget Committee recommend Approval.

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ORDINANCE WARRANT ARTICLES

Article 24 To see if the Town will vote to enact amendments to the Land Use Ordinance as set forth in the document “Town of Durham, Land Use Ordinance as Adopted at Town Meeting, April 1, 2023, Proposed Revisions for Town Meeting, April 6, 2024, PART 1 – DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO IMPLEMENT COMPREHENSIVE PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HOUSING DIVERSITY & TO COMPLY WITH STATE LAW ON HOUSING DENSITY (Articles 4, 5, 16, & 19)” to make greater allowance for accessory apartments and to increase lot sizes where State law requires multiple full-sized dwelling units on a single lot.

Copies are available at the Town Office or online at www.durhamme.com

- Yes**
- No**

Article 25 To see if the Town will vote to enact amendments to the Land Use Ordinance as set forth in the document “Town of Durham, Land Use Ordinance as Adopted at Town Meeting, April 1, 2023, Proposed Revisions for Town Meeting, April 6, 2024, PART 2 – DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO ENACT STANDARDS FOR SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS (Articles 3, 5, 8, & 19)” to establish submission requirements, review procedures, and performance standards for solar energy systems.

Copies are available at the Town Office or online at www.durhamme.com

- Yes**
- No**

Article 26 To see if the Town will vote to enact amendments to the Land Use Ordinance as set forth in the document “Town of Durham, Land Use Ordinance as Adopted at Town Meeting, April 1, 2023, Proposed Revisions for Town Meeting, April 6, 2024, PART 3 – DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO CODIFY CERTAIN FEES FOR INCLUSION IN THE FEE SCHEDULE (Article 18)” to enact new fees for certain permitting services provided by Town.

Copies are available at the Town Office or online at www.durhamme.com

- Yes**
- No**

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BUSINESS ARTICLES

Article 27 To see if the town will vote to authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to transfer the property located at 744 Royalsborough Road, Durham, Maine, also known as the Union Church, to the Durham Historical Society by means of a quitclaim deed.

Explanatory Note: The deed from the Town to the Historical Society would contain a reversionary clause that would require the Union Church to be used solely for the Historical Society use and if the property were ever to be used for other purposes, the property would revert back to the Town.

Article 28 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to spend the funds in the Union Church Restoration Reserve account in conjunction with the Durham Historical Society for repairs and maintenance of the Union Church.

Explanatory Note: Prior to this Annual Meeting there was \$21,632 in the Union Church Restoration account. Article 17 asked the town to raise and appropriate an additional \$9,543 to the reserve account for a total of \$31,175.

Article 29 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to seek, accept and disburse grant funds from private, state or federal agencies, for the purpose so designated in each specific grant.

Article 30 To see what action the Town will take in regard to fixing interest on delinquent taxes and establishing a date for interest to start. Interest shall begin to accrue on all unpaid taxes forty-five days after the date taxes are committed. The interest rate on delinquent taxes shall be the maximum allowable by State Law.

Article 31 To see if the Town will vote to leave the appointment of standing committee members and officials in the hands of the Select Board.

Article 32 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of town owned property which they determine is no longer needed or usable by the town, on such terms as they deem advisable.

Article 33 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to sell and/or dispose of any property acquired by tax liens and allow the Select Board to authorize the Treasurer to waive automatic lien foreclosures when it is in the best interest of the Town.

Article 34 To see if the Town will vote to set the interest rate to be paid by the Town on overpayment of abated taxes at 2% pursuant to 36 MRSA § 506-A.

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Article 35 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet due or assessed, and to pay interest thereon at an interest rate of 0% pursuant to 36 MRSA § 506.

Article 36 To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to resolve any disputes with parties having an interest adverse to that of the Town which do not involve the expenditure of public funds or where there are sufficient funds in budgeted accounts to allow payment of any claim which is to be settled.

Article 37 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to spend an amount not to exceed one third (1/3) of the budget amount in each category of the Town of Durham 2023 annual budget during the period from January 1, 2024, to the close of the 2024 annual town meeting.

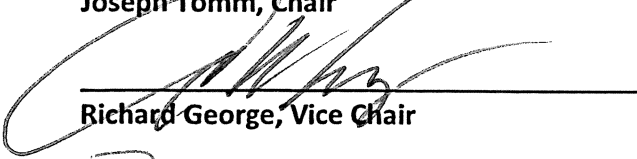
Article 38 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to borrow money on notes approved by at least three members of the Select Board and countersigned by the Select Board Chair, to pay for the operating costs of the Town.

Article 39 To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to move up to 5% of budget lines that have unexpended appropriations to other budget lines, as they deem necessary, to avoid individual budget lines being over-expended.

Given under our hands this 26th day of March 2024 by the Durham Select Board:



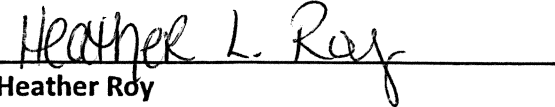
Joseph Tomm, Chair



Richard George, Vice Chair

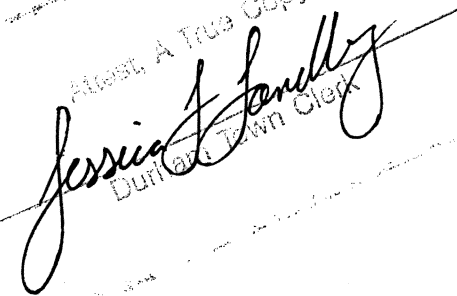


Josh Klein-Golden



Heather Roy

Joseph Roy



Jessica Lavelley
Durham Town Clerk

Attest, A True Copy,
Durham Town Clerk