

## ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MONDAY MARCH 21, 2022 MINUTES

STATE OF MAINE

PENOBSCOT, SS

**TO: JOAN GAUTHIER**, RESIDENT OF THE TOWN OF LOWELL, COUNTY OF PENOBSCOT, AND STATE OF MAINE.

## GREETINGS.

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Lowell, in said County, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Lowell Town Office in the Town of Lowell, County of Penobscot, State of Maine, on Friday, the 18<sup>th</sup> of March, 2022 A.D. at 10 o'clock a.m. in the morning, then and there to act upon articles numbered ONE (1) and TWO (2) as set out below, polls open at 10 a.m. and close at 8 p.m., and to notify and warn the voters to meet at the Lowell Town Office on Monday the 21st<sup>th</sup> day of March 2022 A.D. at 6:00 o'clock in the evening to act upon articles number three (3) through twenty-six (26).

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

(To follow Maine Moderators Rules for said meeting)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JOAN GAUTHIER & SECONDED BY MARILYN SMITH TO NOMINATE KERRY MCINTYRE AS MODERATOR. KERRY WAS APPOINTED WITH A 3-0 VOTE TO CONDUCT THE ELECTION PORTION OF TOWN MEETING AND APPOINTED BETTY BICKFORD AS DEPUTY TO FINISH THE REMAINDER.

- Article 2. Town Officers: To elect all necessary Town Officers as are required by law, by secret ballot. The polls for voting on Articles 1 and 2 will open at 10 a.m. and will close at 8 p.m.
  - -Second Selectman: Three-year term. CHARLES PRIEST
  - -School Committee: One, three-year term. LOLA GARFIELD
  - -Budget Committee: One, three-year term. CYNDY LIBBY
  - -Planning Board: Two, five-year terms. JOAN GAUTHIER/VACANT

Article 3. Overdrafts: To see if the Town will vote to ratify overdrafts occurring in Town operations for fiscal year 2022.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY JIM MCINTYRE. PASSED

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the approved budgeted amount in each category of the FY 2023 annual budget during the period February 1, 2023, until the Annual Town meeting in March 2023.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY GERALD MYRICK & SECONDED BY JIM MCINTYRE. PASSED

Article 5. Prepayment of Taxes: Vote to authorize the Tax Collector or the Treasurer to accept prepayment of taxes, not yet committed, pursuant to 36 M.R.S. §506.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY JOAN GAUTHIER. PASSED

Article 6. Final Settlement: To see if the Town will vote to require that the Tax Collector make final settlement with the Town no later than one year from date of commitment.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY JOAN GAUTHIER. PASSED

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the town, to sell and dispose of any Real Estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes by Tax Lien Foreclosure and to execute on behalf of the Town, Quit Claim Deeds to convey Title of the same. Sale to be by bid process.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY JIM MCINTYRE. PASSED

- Article 8. To see if the Town shall vote to accept the categories of funds listed below provided by the Maine State Legislature or other organizations.
  - 1. Municipal Revenue Sharing
- 4. Snowmobile Registration Monies
- 7. Emergency Management Assistance 10. Veteran's Exemption Funds
- 2. Local Road Assistance Program (LRAP)
- 5. Tree Growth Tax Reimbursement
- 8. General Assistance Reimbursement
- 11. State Grants, or other funds.
- 3. State Aid to Education (including pass-through funds and property tax relief)
- 6. Civil Emergency Funds
- 9. Homestead Exemption Funds
- 12. U.S. Federal Funds

- Article 9. Unexpended Operational Balances: To see if the Town will vote to carry forward any unexpended FY 2022 municipal budget operational balances, from the specific line items below, for the same purpose in the FY 2023 operational budget:
  - 1. Fire Department
- 2. Education
- 3. Winter Roads
- 4. Photocopier Reserve 5. Building Reserve
- 6. Roads & Bridges Reserve

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY JOAN GAUTHIER. PASSED

Article 10. Surplus: In accordance with ADM 26, approved March 15, 2010, the Board of Selectmen are authorized to appropriate money from surplus for tax relief and stability of the municipal tax rate. The amount used for this purpose shall not reduce the available surplus balance below \$250,000.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY JIM MCINTYRE. PASSED

Article 11. To fix compensation paid to Town Officials and Employees.

1<sup>st</sup>. Selectman \$3,500. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Selectman \$3,500. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Selectman \$3,500

Town Clerk \$15.500

Registrar of Voters \$1,500.00

Treasurer; \$3,300 /Payroll fees \$3,000 Tax Collector \$11,000 Road Commissioner \$600 Municipal Fire Chief \$6,500

**Animal Control Officer \$600** 

Custodian \$5,000:

Code Enforcement Officer \$5,500 General Assistance Officer \$500.

Local Health Officer \$100

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY JOAN GAUTHIER. PASSED

Article 12. General Government: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$118,757 for General Government.

A MOTION MADE BY GERALD MYRICK & SECONDED BY JOAN GAUTHIER. PASSED

Article 13. Operation of the Town Office: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,370 for the Operation of the Town Office, and appropriate up to \$10,000 from surplus for unanticipated emergency expenses as needed.

A MOTION MADE BY GERALD MYRICK & SECONDED BY DENISE MYRICK. PASSED

Article 14. Fire Department Services: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, and expend from the Fire Department Reserve Account the below sums for the Operation of the Lowell Fire Department Services:

Fire Department Operations (raise and appropriate): \$22,000.

Ambulance Operations: (Expend from Fire Department/Ambulance Reserve Account) \$20,334.

A MOTION MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY GERALD MYRICK . PASSED

Article 15. Fire Department Reserve Account: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to add to the Fire Department Reserve Account.

A MOTION MADE BY GERALD MYRICK & SECONDED BY JOAN GAUTHIER. PASSED

Article 16. Public Safety: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,900 for Public Safety.

A MOTION MADE BY KERRY MCINTYRE & SECONDED BY JIM MCINTYRE. PASSED

Article 17. Public Works: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$139,550 for Public Works, and appropriate up to \$5,000 from surplus for junkyard cleanup if/as needed.

A MOTION MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY JOAN GAUTHIER. PASSED

**Article 18. Sanitation:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the Burlington –Lowell Transfer Station operations and maintenance.

A MOTION MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY JOAN GAUTHIER. PASSED

Article 19. Special Assessments: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$89,400 to pay County Tax.

A MOTION MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY JIM MCINTYRE. PASSED

Article 20. Debt Service: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,894.00 for the Municipal Building loan.

A MOTION MADE BY GERALD MYRICK & SECONDED BY JIM MCINTYRE. PASSED

Article 21. General Assistance: To authorize the Selectmen to appropriate funds, as needed, for General Assistance from Surplus.

A MOTION MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY KERRY MCINTYRE. PASSED

Article 22. Interest: To authorize the Tax Collector to charge interest on Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes not paid by January 31, 2023. Interest begins February 1, 2023, at 4% annually and will accrue daily thereafter.

A MOTION MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY KERRY MCINTYRE. PASSED

Article 23. Discount: To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Title 36 section 505 Paragraph 5 of M.R.S.A., to allow 2% discount on all taxes, Real and Personal if paid in full within 30 days of commitment.

A MOTION MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY KERRY MCINTYRE. PASSED

Article 24. Reserve Account Management: To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to pay for normal maintenance or repair work, as required, from the established, designated reserve accounts.

A MOTION MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY JIM MCINTYRE. PASSED

Article 25. Roads and Bridges Reserve Account: To see if the Town will vote to approve the reclassification of the Tannery Road Bridge Admin Account to Roads and Bridges Reserve Account.

A MOTION MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY JIM MCINTYRE. PASSED

Article 26. Authorization for Disposal of Municipal Personal Property: To see if the town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to dispose of town-owned personal property with a value not exceeding the amount of \$1000, under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

A MOTION MADE BY JIM MCINTYRE & SECONDED BY DENISE MYRICK. PASSED

A MOTION MADE BY DENISE MYRICK & SECONDED BY JIM MCINTYRE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. PASSED

**MEETING ADJOURED AT 6:53PM** 

SELECTMEN / ASSESSORS / OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
Mathew McIntyre Mah mid
_orris Briggs
R. Mark Cofran Quelin Col