



**ANNUAL  
TOWN MEETING  
MONDAY MARCH 24, 2025**

**STATE OF MAINE**

**PENOBSCOT, SS**

**TO: LORI MOURA, 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 21<sup>ST</sup> of March, 2025 A.D. at 10 o'clock 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 6 p.m., and to notify and warn the voters to meet at the Lowell Town Office on Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025 A.D. at 6:00 o'clock in the evening to act upon articles number three (3) through (25).

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

**(To follow Maine Moderators Rules for said meeting)**

**Elizabeth Bickford was nominated and seconded as moderator. 3 written votes were cast for Elizabeth Bickford. No other individuals were nominated.**

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 6 p.m.

-Second Selectman: Three-year term. **Micheal Gostin was elected with 14 votes**

-Budget Committee: Three, two-year terms. **Charles Priest and Alan Robert Thurlow both received one write in vote and excepted the position. Cyndi Libby, Kerry McIntyre, Ellen Thurlow, Marshall Wakefield, Angela Priest, and April Shorey all also received one write in vote but declined the position. Mike Garfield also received one write in vote, but is already on the committee.**

-School Committee: one, three-year terms **Leah Wakefield and April Fogg both received one write in vote for the position. Leah excepted the position and April declined the position.**

Article 3. Overdrafts: To see if the Town will vote to ratify overdrafts occurring in Town Operations for fiscal year 2025.

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Bonnie Hill seconded the motion. 9 to 0 was the vote it 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 2025 annual budget during the period February 1, 2026, until the Annual Town meeting in March 2026.

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

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.

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Bonnie Hill seconded the motion. 9 to 0 was the vote it passed**

Article 6. Tax-acquired Property: To see if the Town will vote to require the selectmen to provide the former owner(s) of tax-acquired property, or if deceased his/her/their heirs/devisees/personal representative 30 days to repurchase the property for a price equal to all outstanding taxes, interest, fees, and costs; if the former owner does not repurchase the property the selectmen may sell the property through the sale process in 36 MRS § 943-C, provided that if the former owner does not timely request that process or the board is unable to list or sell the property as required by § 943-C(3), the board may sell the property through a competitive sealed bid process in which a notice advertising sale of the property shall be published at least twice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county. For sales to someone other than the former owner(s), excess sale proceeds, as defined in 36 MRS § 943-C, shall be returned to the former owner.

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Lori Moura seconded the motion. 10 to 0 was the vote it passed**

Article 7. 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       | 2. Local Road Assistance Program (LRAP) | 3. State Aid to Education (including pass-through funds and property tax relief) |
| 4. Snowmobile Registration Monies  | 5. Tree Growth Tax Reimbursement        | 6. Civil Emergency Funds                                                         |
| 7. Emergency Management Assistance | 8. General Assistance Reimbursement     | 9. Homestead Exemption Funds                                                     |
| 10. Veteran's Exemption Funds      | 11. State Grants, or other funds.       | 12. U.S. Federal Funds                                                           |

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Lori Moura seconded the motion. 10 to 0 was the vote it passed.**

Article 8. 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.

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

*Undesignated Fund (Surplus) Balance as of Year End 2023 Audit: \$497,734*

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Lori Moura seconded the motion. 10 to 0 was the vote it passed**

Article 9. To fix compensation paid to Town Officials and Employees.

|                     |         |                            |         |
|---------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------|
| 1st Selectmen       | \$3,732 | Animal Control Officer     | \$800   |
| 2nd Selectmen       | \$3,732 | Custodian                  | \$5,330 |
| 3rd Selectmen       | \$3,732 | Local Health Officer       | \$100   |
| Treasurer           | \$3,600 | Road Commissioner          | \$600   |
| Deputy Treasurer    | \$1,000 | General Assistance Officer | \$500   |
| Registrar of Voters | \$1,600 | Code Enforcement Officer   | \$5,865 |

The Town Clerk shall be compensated at a rate of \$21.97 per hour, with total annual compensation not to exceed \$17,425

The Tax Collector shall be compensated at a rate of \$16.53 per hour, with total annual compensation not to exceed \$12,248.75

*All compensation listed above as 2024-2025 fiscal year except for Town Clerk and Tax Collector. For the 2024-2025 fiscal year the Town Clerk compensation was \$17,000 and the Tax Collector compensation was \$11,950*

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Lori Moura seconded the motion. 10 to 0 was the vote it passed**

#### **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

Article 10. General Government: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 118,522.75 for General Government.

*Total approved for 2024-2025 fiscal year: \$123,273*

#### **Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Lori Moura seconded the motion. 10 to 0 was the vote it passed**

Article 11. Operation of the Town Office: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$33,250 for the Operation of the Town Office, and appropriate up to \$10,000 from surplus for unanticipated emergency expenses as needed.

*Total approved for 2024-2025 fiscal year \$34,124 from taxation and \$10,000 from surplus*

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Lori Moura seconded the motion. 10 to 0 was the vote it passed**

Article 12. Public Safety: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 18,400 for Public Safety.

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Lori Moura seconded the motion. 9 to 0 was the vote it passed**

*Total approved for 2024-2025 fiscal year \$18,350 from taxation*

Article 13. Public Works: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$196,450 for Public Works,

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Lori Moura seconded the motion. 10 to 0 was the vote it passed**

*Total approved for 2024-2025 fiscal year: \$184,950*

Article 14. 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.

*Total approved for 2024-2025 fiscal year: \$50,000*

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Lori Moura seconded the motion. 10 to 0 was the vote it passed**

Article 15. Special Assessments: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of 119,032.43 to pay County Tax.

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Lori Moura seconded the motion. Before the vote could take place Third Selectman Kirk Fogg made a motion to amend the Article to a lower sum of 110,891.38 because the county Tax was lower than original stated. Brian Moura First Selectman seconded the amended motion. The original motion was voted down and the amended motion was approved 10 to 0 was the vote it passed**

*Total approved for 2024-2025 fiscal year: \$109,110.99*

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

Article 16. Debt Service: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,894.00 for the Municipal Building loan.

*Total approved for 2024-2025 fiscal year: \$40,894  
Building Mortgage Balance as of 12/31/2024: \$398,475.03  
Maturity Date: January 2037  
Interest Rate: 3.5%*

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Lori Moura seconded the motion. 10 to 0 was the vote it passed**

Article 17. General Assistance: To authorize the Selectmen to appropriate funds, as needed, for General Assistance from Surplus.

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Bonnie Hill seconded the motion. 10 to 0 was the vote it passed**

Article 18. Interest: To authorize the Tax Collector to charge interest on Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes not paid by January 31, 2025. Interest begins February 1, 2025, at 5% annually and will accrue daily thereafter.

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Lori Moura seconded the motion. 10 to 0 was the vote it passed**

Article 19. 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.

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Lori Moura seconded the motion. 10 to 0 was the vote it passed**

Article 20. Reserve Account Management: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to expend funds from established reserve accounts for their designated purposes, provided that the expenditure does not exceed the amounts available in the respective reserve accounts and that the expenditures align with the specific purposes for which the reserve accounts were created

ARPA Funds Winter Roads Reserve Fire Protection Reserve Photocopier Reserve  
Town Office Building Reserve LRAP Funds Forest Fire Reserve Perpetual Care  
*Reserve Account Balances as of 03/04/2025:*

*ARPA Funds \$21,897*  
*Photocopier Reserve \$ 2,188*  
*LRAP Funds: \$ 97,646*  
*Perpetual Care \$8,537*

*Winter Road Reserve \$106,060*  
*Town Office Reserve \$7,500*  
*Forest Fire Reserve \$17,500*  
*Fire Protection Reserve \$23,823*

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Doug Wakefield seconded the motion. 9 to 0 was the vote it passed**

Article 21. 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.

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**The moderator noticed the numbers were off on the article and corrected them from 22 to 21 and adjusted the rest to the correct numbers as she continued with the articles.**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Lori Moura seconded the motion. 10 to 0 was the vote it passed**

Article 22. Fire Department Contract: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for emergency services the sum of \$221,546.00 for the contractual agreement with the Central Maine Highlands Fire & EMS District #1

Expend from Surplus (funds from sale of fire equipment): 1,200.00

(Raise the remainder of): \$220,346.00

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Bonnie Hill seconded the motion. 10 to 0 was the vote it passed**

Total approved for 2024-2025 fiscal year: From taxation \$91,714.74 from Fire Department Reserve \$86,091.58. The Central Maine Highlands Fire & EMS District #1 Fiscal Year is from July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025, therefore the contract voted on at today's meeting is from July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026

Article 23. Amendment to Special District Arrangement-Central Highlands Fire EMS District #1

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to amend the Special District Agreement for the Provision of Fire and Emergency Rescue Services ("Agreement") by requiring parties to the Agreement to make payments in monthly installments.

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Lori Moura seconded the motion. 10 to 0 was the vote it passed.**

Article 24. Burlington/Lowell Transfer Compactor. To see if the town will authorize the purchase and installation of a second solid waste compactor at Burlington/Lowell Transfer Station. Cost of project to be \$38,000.

**Recommended by the Board of Selectmen**

**Kerry McIntyre made a motion to except the article as written. Lori Moura seconded the motion. 10 to 0 was the vote it passed**

*Money for the project is currently in BLT checking account and was made available from cost savings seen in trucking fees and backhoe rentals since installation of first compactor. A passing vote from both Burlington and Lowell is required.*

**SELECTMEN / ASSESSORS / OVERSEERS OF THE POOR**

**Brian Moura** \_\_\_\_\_

**Michael Gostin** \_\_\_\_\_

**Kirk Fogg** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOWN OF LOWELL, MAINE**

**A TRUE COPY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**LISA WOODWARD, CLERK**