

GUIDELINES FOR THE TOWN MEETING

All comments or questions will be directed to the Moderator.

No one may speak until recognized by the Moderator.

No smoking is allowed on school grounds.

Each article will be read in full and the recommendation of the budget committee will be stated as necessary. An affirmative motion will be made by an identified voter and seconded by an identified voter. No negative motions, including a motion to pass over, will be accepted. Vote will be by a show of hands, unless a written (secret) ballot is in order. The results of the vote will be announced. Vote counts may be challenged by a minimum of 7 voters.

Any decision by the moderator may be challenged and overruled by a majority vote of voters present.

General provisions for Town Meeting are in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes Title 30:

Qualified voter: Every registered voter in the town may vote in the election of all town officials and in all town affairs.

Moderator elected and sworn: The clerk, or in the clerk's absence, a selectman or constable shall open the meeting by:

- A. Calling for the election of a moderator by written ballot
- B. Receiving and counting votes for moderator
- C. Swearing in the moderator

Moderator presides: As soon as they have been elected and sworn in, the moderator shall preside over and supervise the voting at the meeting and may appoint a deputy moderator to assist. If the moderator is absent or unable to carry out the duties, the clerk, or in the clerk's absence, a selectman or constable may call for the election of a deputy moderator to act in the absence of the moderator.

- All persons shall be silent at the moderator's command. A person may not speak before being recognized by the moderator.
- A person who is not a voter in the town may speak at the meeting only with the consent of 2/3 of the voters present.
- If any person, after a command for order by the moderator, continues to act in a disorderly manner, the moderator may direct that person to leave the meeting. If the person refuses to leave, the moderator may have that person removed by a constable until the meeting is adjourned. That person may also be fined.
- When a vote declared by the moderator is immediately questioned by at least 7 voters, the moderator will make certain by polling the voters or by a method directed by the municipal legislative body.
- The moderator shall serve until the meeting is adjourned. The moderator is subject to the same penalties for neglect of official duty as other town officials.

Votes recorded by the clerk: The clerk shall accurately record the votes of the meeting. If the clerk is absent, the moderator shall appoint and swear in a temporary clerk.

Written ballots: The clerk shall prepare the written (secret) ballots. Ballots shall be of uniform size and color, and must be blank except that 2 squares with 'yes' by one and 'no' by the other may be printed on them.

TOWN MEETING WARRANT 2024

To: Kathy Estes, a resident in the Town of Madison in the County of Somerset, 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 Madison, in said County and State, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Madison Main Street Middle School Auditorium, in said Town, on Monday, the tenth (10th) day of June, 2024 A.D. at seven o'clock in the evening (7PM), then and there to act upon Article 1 and Articles 3 through 35 as set out below to wit:

And, to notify and warn said inhabitants to meet at the Old Point School Election Room in said Town, on Tuesday, the eleventh (11th) day of June 2024 A.D. at eight o'clock in the morning (8AM) until eight o'clock in the evening (8PM):

Article 1

To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Article 2

To elect all Municipal Officers, Directors for S.A.D. #59 and other Municipal Officials as are required to be elected:

- 1 Select Board, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor for 3 years
- 3 Directors for SAD #59 for 3 Years
- 1 Trustee for Anson-Madison Sanitary District for 3 years
- 2 Trustee for Anson-Madison Water District for 3 years
- 1 Trustee for Madison Public Library for 5 Years
- 1 Director for Madison Electric Works for 5 Years

Article 3

To see if the Town will vote to pay the Directors of the Department of Electric Works \$10,200.00 for the ensuing year, said sum to be paid from the funds of the department.

Select Board Recommends YES

Article 4

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,200.00 to pay its Select Board*.

Advisory Board Recommends YES **Compensation is included under Article 6.*

Article 5

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to use up to \$25,000 from undesignated revenue in the event of overdrafts, unforeseen events or emergencies. Any use of this contingency arrangement must be voted on at a Select Board meeting and the expenditures made will be listed in the subsequent town report. Total transfer of undesignated revenues shall not exceed \$25,000 within the fiscal year. Transfer of undesignated revenues in excess of \$25,000 must be authorized by a town meeting vote.

Select Board Recommends YES

Advisory Board Recommends YES

Article 6

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **General Government** account in the General Fund.

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Administration | \$627,812 |
| Planning Board | \$6,550 |
| Code Enforcement/Facilities Maint | \$89,215 |
| Boards and Committees | \$19,940 |
| Elections | \$10,500 |
| <u>Assessing</u> | <u>\$48,000</u> |
| Total expenses | \$802,017 |
| <u>Approved revenue from TIF</u> | <u>(\$30,000)</u> |
| Total Raised by Taxation | \$772,017 |
| Select Board Recommends | \$772,017 |
| Advisory Board Recommends | \$772,017 |

Article 7

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Public Safety** in the General Fund.

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Ambulance | \$99,250 |
| Police | \$576,026 |
| Fire Department | \$160,920 |
| <u>Animal Control</u> | <u>\$6,435</u> |
| Total Expenses | \$842,631 |
| <u>Approved revenue from TIF</u> | <u>(\$20,000)</u> |
| Total Raised by Taxation | \$822,631 |
| Select Board Recommends | \$822,631 |
| Advisory Board Recommends | \$822,631 |

Article 8

To see what sum the town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Public Utilities** account in the General Fund.

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Street Lights | \$60,000 |
| Hydrants/Fire Protection | \$245,000 |
| Storm water | \$75,000 |
| <u>Waste Disposal</u> | <u>\$260,000</u> |
| Total Expenses | \$640,000 |
| <u>Approved revenue from TIF</u> | <u>(\$30,000)</u> |
| Total Raised by Taxation | \$610,000 |
| Select Board Recommends | \$610,000 |
| Advisory Board Recommends | \$610,000 |

Article 9

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Public Works** account in the General Fund:

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Public Works | \$902,765 |
| <u>Approved Revenue from TIF</u> | <u>(\$35,000)</u> |
| Total Raised by Taxation | \$867,765 |
| Select Board Recommends | \$867,765 |
| Advisory Board Recommends | \$867,765 |

Article 10

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Recreation** account in the General Fund:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Select Board Recommends | \$131,610 |
| Advisory Board Recommends | \$131,610 |

Article 11

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Community Services** in the General Fund.

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <u>General Assistance</u> | <u>\$24,500</u> |
| Community Programs | |
| Community Recycling | \$5,000 |
| US Naval Sea Cadets Corps | \$1,000 |
| Lake Association | \$15,000 |
| American Legion & VFW | \$1,500 |
| People Who Care Food Cupboard | \$16,500 |
| Recycling/Household Hazardous Waste | \$1,000 |
| Kennebec Behavioral Health | \$500 |
| Lakewood Theatre | \$5,000 |
| St. Sebastian Cemetery | \$1,000 |
| Madison Business Alliance | \$7,500 |
| The LifeFlight Foundation | \$1,200 |
| Maine Public Radio & TV | \$100 |
| <u>Total Community Programs</u> | <u>\$55,300</u> |
| Service Organizations | |
| KVCAP Trans | \$2,500 |
| Madison Anson Senior Citizens | \$4,500 |
| Spectrum Generations | \$5,000 |
| Somerset Humane Society | \$10,000 |
| Hospice Volunteers of Somerset County | \$3,000 |
| Literacy Volunteers | \$150 |
| <u>Service Organizations</u> | <u>\$25,150</u> |
| Grand Total Community Services | \$104,950 |
| <u>Approved revenue from TIF</u> | <u>(\$5,000)</u> |
| Select Board Recommends | \$99,950 |
| Advisory Board Recommends | \$99,950 |

Article 12

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Cemeteries** in the General Fund.

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Select Board Recommends | \$49,250 |
| Advisory Board Recommends | \$49,250 |

Article 13

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Madison Public Library** in the General Fund.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Select Board Recommends | \$147,350 |
| Advisory Board Recommends | \$147,350 |

Article 14

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Town Owned Property** in the General Fund.

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Select Board Recommends | \$38,405 |
| Advisory Board Recommends | \$38,405 |

Article 15

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Highway Equipment Purchases**.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Select Board Recommends | \$125,999 |
| Advisory Board Recommends | \$125,999 |

Article 16

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Road Surface Projects & Culverts**.

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Select Board Recommends | \$99,000 |
| Advisory Board Recommends | \$99,000 |

Article 17

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Sidewalk Maintenance**.

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Select Board Recommends | \$68,275 |
| Advisory Board Recommends | \$68,275 |

Article 18

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Fire Department Building Repairs**.

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Select Board Recommends | \$75,000 |
| Advisory Board Recommends | \$75,000 |

Article 19

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Fire Department Equipment Purchases**.

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Select Board Recommends | \$50,000 |
| Advisory Board Recommends | \$50,000 |

Article 20

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to carry forward \$208,320 in previously designated ARPA funds.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Select Board Recommends | YES |
| Advisory Board Recommends | YES |

Article 21

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to carry forward \$107,250 in previously designated unspent capital funds for the purchase of Highway Equipment.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Select Board Recommends | YES |
| Advisory Board Recommends | YES |

Article 22

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to carry forward \$50,000 in previously designated unspent capital funds for the purchase of Fire Equipment.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Select Board Recommends | YES |
| Advisory Board Recommends | YES |

Article 23

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to carry forward \$25,000 in previously designated unspent capital funds for repairs to the Forest Hill Cemetery.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Select Board Recommends | YES |
| Advisory Board Recommends | YES |

Article 24

To see if the Town will vote to use \$500,000 from undesignated fund balance to offset taxes.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Select Board Recommends | YES |
| Advisory Board Recommends | YES |

Article 25

To see if the Town will vote to allocate the balance of the snowmobile excise tax refund to the Abnaki Snow Riders Snowmobile Club.

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|-------------------------|-----|
| Select Board Recommends | YES |
|-------------------------|-----|

Article 26

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes for the year 2025-2026 not yet due or assessed.

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Select Board Recommends | YES |
|-------------------------|-----|

Article 27

To see if the Town will vote the date of September 15, 2024 or 30 days after commitment, whichever is later, as the date when the first one-half of taxes assessed for the current year shall become due and payable, and the date of March 15, 2025, when the second one-half of taxes assessed for the current year shall become due and payable, with taxes unpaid after said dates to bear interest at the rate of eight percent (8.00%) per annum from said dates.

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| Select Board Recommends | YES |
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Article 28

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to enter into a standard agreement with residential taxpayers establishing a “tax club” payment plan for property taxes, whereby: (1) the taxpayer agrees to pay specified monthly payments to the town based on his/her estimated and actual tax obligation for the current year property taxes; (2) the town agrees not to charge interest on timely payments made pursuant to the tax club agreement; (3) the town authorizes the collector to accept tax club payments for current taxes which may be due prior to the commitment of those taxes; (4) the agreement is automatically terminated if a scheduled payment is late, and the taxpayer then becomes subject to the same due dates and interest dates and rates as other taxpayers who are not participating in a tax club; (5) only taxpayers who do not have any outstanding tax obligations for prior tax years are eligible to participate in the tax club program; and (6) taxpayers wishing to participate in a tax club for a particular property tax year shall enter into an agreement with the town by a publicly-advertised deadline determined by the Tax Collector.

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| Select Board Recommends | YES |
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Article 29

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to advertise and sell Town-owned personal property at public sale.

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|-------------------------|-----|
| Select Board Recommends | YES |
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Article 30

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of Town-owned property, not tax-acquired, in any manner that the Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town.

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Select Board Recommends | YES |
|-------------------------|-----|

Article 31

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of tax acquired property as they deem in the best interests of the Town, except that they shall first use the sale process in 36 M.R.S.A. § 943-C if they choose to sell the property to anyone other than the former owner. For sales to someone other than the former owner, excess sale proceeds, as defined in 36 M.R.S.A. § 943-C, shall be returned to the former owner.

Select Board Recommends YES

Article 32

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to approve all wages and salaries for the coming year, except for those already provided for.

Select Board Recommends YES

Article 33

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Manager, under the direction of the Select Board, to apply for grant monies and to expend monies received for the stated grant purposes.

Select Board Recommends YES

Article 34

To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506-A, will vote to fix the rate of four percent (4.00%) interest to be paid on overpaid or abated taxes.

Select Board Recommends YES

Article 35

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to accept any money or property, real or personal, from any Donor and such money or property shall be utilized as specified by the Donor.

Select Board Recommends YES

Article 36

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to swap a portion of a parcel of land on South Maple Street behind Reny’s Department Store, currently being utilized as municipal parking (Map 019 Lot 83), with the parcel of land upon which the American Legion Post # 39 building currently exists (Map 019 Lot 82). The intent of the American Legion is to build a new facility, tear down the existing structure, remove the debris, and pave the area for replacement municipal parking. *See handout “American Legion”*

Select Board Recommends YES

Article 37

To see if the Town will vote to allow ATV access on the streets of the Town of Madison Village area for residents to gain access to the Kennebec Valley Trail (railbed) and the proposed MDOT Access Route. *See handout “ATV”*

Select Board Recommends YES

Article 38

To see if the Town, in accordance with 22 M.R.S.A. §2423-A, will vote to amend Town Ordinance Chapter 180 *Drugs and Drug Paraphernalia* by expressly allowing the retail sales of medical marijuana/cannabis products.

A “yes” vote will allow the existing medical cannabis retail stores to continue to operate and allow the Planning Board to review the existing ordinance language and bring the amended ordinance back for approval at the next Town Meeting.

A “no” vote will cause the Office of Cannabis Policy to shut down the existing medical cannabis retail shops authorized after 12/13/2018 and prohibit the authorization of any new medical cannabis retail shops in Madison.

Select Board Recommends YES

Voting will be by secret ballot for Article 38