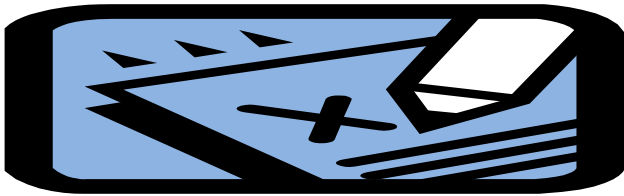


TOWN OF BRIDGTON, MAINE TOWN MEETING GAZETTE 2019

Bridgton's 2019 Annual Town Meeting will be held Tuesday, June 11, and Wednesday, June 12. Residents may register to vote at the Town Office Monday through Friday from 8:00AM to 4:00PM or on Election Day at the polls. *Remember to bring proof of identity and residency.* If you have any questions, please call Laurie Chadbourne, Town Clerk and Registrar of Voters at 647-8786. Town Meeting is your opportunity to have a voice in Bridgton's future.



BALLOT VOTING - Tuesday, June 11

The polls will be open from 8:00AM to 8:00PM at the Bridgton Town Hall, 26 North High Street, to act on **Articles 1 through 10** of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. The deadline to request an *absentee ballot* is Thursday, June 6, 2019. After this deadline, a voter may request an *absentee ballot* only if the voter completes a **Special Circumstances Application** and indicates one of the four allowable reasons to request an *absentee ballot* after this deadline.

Article 1 is for the election of a moderator to preside at Town Meeting. The polls open upon the election of the moderator.

Article 2 is for the election of the following:

- One Select Board members for three-year terms (Select Board members shall serve as Assessor, Overseers of the Poor and Wastewater Commissioners). There

is one candidate: Glenn R. Zaidman. Voters may also write in a candidate.

- Two members of the Planning Board for a three-year term. There are six candidates: Deborah A. Brusini, Daniel J. Harden, Douglas C. Oakley, Diane M. Paul, Gregory N. Watkins and Samantha E. Zawistowski. Voters may also write in candidates.
- One Planning Board Alternate Member seat for a three-year term is open. There are no candidates. Voters may write in a candidate.
- Two directors of the Maine School Administrative District #61 for a three-year term. There is one candidate: Debra C. Albert. Voters may write in candidates.
- One director of the Maine School Administrative District #61 for a two-year term. There is one candidate: Sharon Menegoni. Voters may write in a candidate.
- One member of the Water District Board of Trustees for a three-year term. There are two candidates: Catherine S. Dipietro and Wesley F. Gorman. Voters may also write in candidates.

Articles 3 through 10 described below are proposed amendments and/or additions to the Bridgton Ordinances. The full texts of the amendments are available at the Town Office and on the Town website (www.bridgtonmaine.org).

- **Article 3:** The proposed amendments to the Town of Bridgton Willett Brook

Aquifer Protection Ordinance. The purpose of the Ordinance is to manage the groundwater recharge areas of the Willett Brook Aquifer. The amendments increase the bedrock wells protective zones and the protections for the sand and gravel aquifer wells.

- **Article 4:** The proposed Town of Bridgton Land Use Ordinance establishes code requirements throughout the Town by creating Districts with allowed uses.
- **Article 5:** Voters are being asked to repeal the Town of Bridgton Affordable Housing Local Preference Ordinance. The Ordinance established preferences favoring residents and Town of Bridgton employees to ensure that 50% of all new Affordable Housing Units are made available on a preferential basis to specified groups.
- **Article 6:** The proposed changes to the Town of Bridgton Anti-Litter Ordinance include adding Authority, Administration and Enforcement and Purpose sections. The penalty has been changed to be consistent with 17 Maine State Statutes Sections 2264-A and B.
- **Article 7:** The proposed changes to the Town of Bridgton Bicycle Ordinance includes electric assist bicycles in the definition of bicycle, a helmet requirement for those under 16 to conform with State Law, expanded detail on bicycling while intoxicated and penalties have been changed to be consistent with 29-A Maine State Statutes Sections 2063.
- **Article 8:** The proposed changes to the Town of Bridgton CATV (Community Antenna Television System-cable tv franchise) include adding an Authority and Administration section as well as clarifying terminology.

- **Article 9:** The proposed changes to the Town of Bridgton Ordinance to Regulate Automobile Graveyards, Junkyards and Automobile Recycling Businesses include correcting terminology and clarifying meaning and intent.
- **Article 10:** The proposed Town of Bridgton Uniform Fee Ordinance purpose is to establish reasonable and fair fees to recover costs associated with the exercise of the Town's police power in processing, reviewing and administering applications, licenses, petitions, and permits, including but not limited to building permits, certificates of occupancy, shoreland zoning permit applications, site plan review permit applications, sign permit applications, permit renewals, permit amendments, appeals, and requests for reconsiderations.



OPEN VOTING - Wednesday, June 12

Articles 11 through 41 will be voted on at the open portion of the Annual Town Meeting to be held at 7:00PM, June 12, at the Town Hall. Please refer to the [Annual Town Meeting Warrant](#) for the articles and budget details.

Article 11: Is the *revenue* side of the proposed FY19–20 budget excluding revenues from the Unassigned Fund Balance (Art. 24), Community Development Block Grant (Art. 25) (excepting \$30,000 set aside to off-set administrative costs). It includes anticipated non-property tax revenue that offsets the proposed expenditures reducing the property tax commitment. Overall *revenues* (inclusive of all the aforementioned

Articles) are projected to increase by \$175,299. Notable differences from last year include an increase in Excise Tax Revenues of \$75,000.

Articles 12 through 23 present the *appropriation* (expenditure) side of the proposed FY19–20 Budget. Gross appropriations increased by \$14,016. The net appropriation decrease (including total Revenue increase of \$175,299) is \$161,283.

Article 12, General Government: Please refer to the Town Meeting Warrant for a detailed breakdown. The cost center increased by \$144,651. Non-union employee wages were adjusted by 3%, Account/Sewer Clerk and Recreation Programmer positions were created, insurance costs increased and Woods Pond Beach lifeguards are included.

Article 13, Public Safety: Please refer to the Town Meeting Warrant for a detailed breakdown. The cost center decreased by \$1,638. The Union Contract with the Police Department expires June 30, 2019.

Article 14, Public Works: Please refer to the Town Meeting Warrant for a detailed breakdown. The cost center increased by \$43,901. The increase includes tree removal at Pondicherry Park, cleaning the Civil War Monument and weekly water testing at Highland Lake, Woods Pond, Plummer’s Landing and Salmon Point beaches.

Article 15, Board of Selectmen: The Chair receives \$1,750 and the Board \$1,300 each for a total appropriation of \$6,950. No change from last year.

Article 16, Planning Board: The Chair receives \$1,000 and the Board, including the 2 alternates, \$750 each for a total appropriation of \$5,500. No change from last year.

Article 17, Capital Expenditures: Please refer to the Town Meeting Warrant for a detailed breakdown. The cost center decreased by

\$346,100. Included this year is on-going funding towards the roadwork.

Article 18, Capital Expenditures Reserves: Please refer to the Town Meeting Warrant for a detailed breakdown. Reserve Funds are established for financing the acquisition or reconstruction of a specific, or a type of, capital improvement; financing the acquisition of a specific item or type of capital equipment; or a sinking fund account for paying a funded debt. Decreased by \$10,000 as the Recreation Reserve is funded at its maximum allowed amount.

Article 19, Outside Agencies: Please refer to the Town Meeting Warrant for a detailed breakdown. The cost center increased by \$5,218.

Article 20, Outside Services: Please refer to the Town Meeting Warrant for a detailed breakdown. The cost center increased by \$6,844.

Article 21, Contingency Account: The appropriation is used for unanticipated costs. No change from last year.

Article 22, Long Term Debt: Payment and interest for two Public Works trucks. The cost center increased by \$126,140 for the purchase of a new plow truck, sidewalk plow, Streetscape, Lower Main Street and Wastewater Expansion.

Article 23, County Fees and Taxes: Please refer to the Town Meeting Warrant for a detailed breakdown. The cost center increased by \$39,348.

Article 24, Unassigned Fund Balance: This is used to reduce taxes. No change from last year.

Article 25, Community Development Block Grant Capital Reserve: These funds are used towards the following projects: Armory (Community Center) repairs, further improvements to the Skating Rink, new

playground equipment at the Community Center and bathroom improvements at the Town Hall. The following Social Services are funded: Navigator Program, Backpack Program, Bridgton Community Supper and St. Joseph Food Pantry & Bridgton Food Pantry. Funds also off-set the costs of the Administrative Assistant and Community Development Director. The cost center increased by \$16,228.

Article 26, Bridgton Trust Fund: Please refer to the Town Meeting Warrant for a detailed breakdown. This article authorizes the use of the trust fund revenue for General Assistance, Cemeteries, Downtown Landscaping, School Fund and Willis Park. No change from last year.

Article 27, Moose Pond Trust Fund: Please refer to the Town Meeting Warrant for a detailed breakdown. This article authorizes the use of the trust fund revenue for Recreation. No change from last year.

Articles 28 through 41 are annual housekeeping articles.

Article 28: Sets the tax due dates, the tax delinquency dates and establishes the interest rate for unpaid taxes.

Article 29: Authorizes the Select Board to fund property tax abatements from the tax overlay account and to pay interest to taxpayers who pay amounts in excess of amounts finally assessed.

Article 30: Establishes the interest rate for unpaid wastewater charges.

Article 31: Authorizes the Tax Collector to accept pre-payment of taxes.

Article 32: Authorizes the Select Board to enter into boundary line agreements.

Article 33: Waives foreclosure of tax lien mortgages when ownership would be contrary to the town's best interest.

Article 34: Authorizes the Select Board to dispose of tax-acquired properties.

Article 35: Authorizes the Select Board to dispose of real estate acquired for non-payment of wastewater fee acquired properties.

Article 36: Authorizes the Select Board to dispose of Town-owned property deemed surplus and establishes the procedure.

Article 37: Moves unexpended balances to the Unassigned Fund Balance and authorizes the Select Board to use monies from the Unassigned Fund Balance to pay for deficits in the upcoming fiscal year.

Article 38: Authorizes the Select Board to dispose of Town owned equipment deemed no longer of any use.

Article 39: Authorizes the Select Board and Treasurer to accept gifts, real estate, etc. on behalf of the town.

Article 40: Authorizes the Select Board to apply for and accept grants unless it requires the expenditure of other funds not appropriated by the Town.

Article 41: Authorizes the Select Board to participate in the Cumberland County Housing and Community Development Programs of the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development and to execute an agreement with Cumberland County to formalize the agreement.