

Town of Bridgton
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Tuesday, June 14, 2022 and Wednesday, June 15, 2022

State of Maine

County of Cumberland, ss

Article 1. To elect a Moderator to preside at said meeting and to vote by written ballot.

Marita Wisner was elected Moderator and sworn to the statute oath by Town Clerk Laurie Chadbourne.

Article 2. To elect the following Town Officers by secret ballot as required by 30-A MRS §2528:

(1) Selectman/Assessor/Overseer of the Poor; 3-year term

Alfred A. Bottone, IV received 100 votes;

Seth J. Dresser received 163 votes;

Kenneth J. Murphy received 362 votes and was elected;

Miscellaneous write ins received 19 votes;

Blanks 82.

(2) Planning Board Regular Member; 3-year term

Deborah A. Brusini received 499 votes and was elected;

Rolf P. Madsen received 347 votes and was elected;

Miscellaneous write ins received 25 votes;

Blanks 581.

(1) Planning Board Alternate Member; 3-year term

Catherine S. DiPietro received 558 votes and was elected;

Miscellaneous write ins received 8 votes;

Blanks 160.

(1) MSAD #61 Director; 3-year term

Debra C. Albert received 572 votes and was elected;

Miscellaneous write ins received 12 votes;

Blanks 142.

(1) Water District Trustee; 3-year term

Catherine S. DiPietro received 252 votes;

Wesley F. Gorman received 382 votes and was elected;

Miscellaneous write ins received 3 votes;

Blanks 89.

Article 3. To vote by secret ballot on the following “**Question 1.** Shall an ordinance entitled, “Town of Bridgton Senior Tax Assistance Ordinance,” be enacted?” (*Note: Copies of the text of the ordinance are available from the Town Clerk.*) Board of Selectmen Recommend a YES vote.

Yes received 595 votes and passed;

No received 109 votes;

Blanks 22.

Article 4. To vote by secret ballot on the following “**Question 2.** Shall an ordinance entitled “Town of Bridgton Ordinance Establishing a Moratorium on Commercial Solar Energy Facilities,” be enacted?” *(Note: Copies of the text of the ordinance are available from the Town Clerk.)* Board of Selectmen Recommend a YES vote;

Yes received 483 votes and passed;

No received 223 votes;

Blanks 20.

Article 5. To vote by secret ballot on the following “**Question 3.** Shall an ordinance entitled, “Amendments to Bridgton Land Use Code and Official Shoreland Zoning Maps to Correct Errors and Add a Limited Commercial (LC) Shoreland Zoning District,” be enacted?” *(Note: A “Yes” vote will enact the ordinance entitled, “Amendments to Bridgton Land Use Code and Official Shoreland Zoning Maps to Correct Errors and Add a Limited Commercial (LC) Shoreland Zoning District,” and will change the zoning of some properties or portions of certain properties from the Limited Residential (LR) shoreland zoning district to the Limited Commercial (LC) shoreland zoning district. Copies of the text of the ordinance, including the current and proposed Official Shoreland Zoning Maps, are available from the Town Clerk.)* Board of Selectmen Recommend a YES vote.

Yes received 476 votes and passed;

No received 222 votes;

Blanks 28.

Article 6. To vote by secret ballot on the following “**Question 4.** Do you favor voting on all business to be transacted at future annual town meetings by secret ballot election rather than traditional in-person town meeting? *(Note: This is a non-binding advisory question.)*”

Yes received 343 votes;

No received 361 votes and did not pass;

Blanks 22.

A total of 726 votes were cast at the Municipal Election.

Moderator Wisner recessed the Town Meeting until June 15, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, June 15, 2022

79 resident voters were in attendance; 4 non-residents were in attendance.

Members of the Board of Selectmen Present: Chairman Carmen E. Lone, Vice-Chairman Glenn R. Zaidman; Robert J. McHatton; Paul A. Tworog;

Select Board Member George Frederick Packard was not in attendance.

Administration Present: Town Manager Robert Peabody; Deputy Town Manager Georgiann Fleck; Finance Director Holly Heymann, Town Clerk Laurie Chadbourne, Recreation Director Gary Colello, Code Enforcement Officer Brenda Day, Public Services Director David Madsen, Police Chief Philip Jones, Emergency Management Director Todd Perreault, Fire Chief Glen Garland; Executive Assistant Nikki Hodgkins, Deputy Town Clerk Ashley Albrecht, Deputy Town Clerk Sean Day, Deputy Town Clerk Jamie Ferguson

Moderator Wisner called the Town Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and recited the “Pledge of Allegiance.” Moderator Wisner read the results of Article 1 through Article 7 from the June 14, 2022 Election. There were no objections to Moderator Wisner conducting the meeting in accordance with the Maine Moderators Manual (seventh edition, 2021). She requested that voters go to the microphone and identify themselves when speaking. All in favor to recognize non-resident department heads Code Enforcement Officer Brenda Day and Public Services Director David Madsen. Moderator Wisner thanked Lake Region Television for providing audio equipment and video coverage.

Chairman Lone thanked the residents, introduced Board Members, and gave a short speech. Chairman Lone recognized Vice-Chairman Zaidman and presented him with an appreciation plaque for his most recent term on the Board of Selectmen. Chairman Lone recognized D. Steve Collins for serving the Town of Bridgton in his role as Moderator from 1974-2022.

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of up to \$100,000 from the Unassigned Fund balance to fund the Town of Bridgton Senior Property Tax/Rental Assistance Program.

Approved 2021/2022 \$0

Board of Selectmen Recommend \$100,000

Motion was made by Chairman Lone to accept Article 7 in the amount of \$100,000.

Second from Vice-Chairman Zaidman. All in favor.

Article 7 was passed in the amount of \$100,000.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$4,352,577 from Anticipated Revenues, the Unassigned Fund Balance, Bridgton Trust Fund and Moose Pond Trust Fund to reduce property taxes for the 2022/2023 fiscal year.

	Approved 2021/2022	Board of Selectmen Recommend
General Government	\$3,242,885	\$3,789,222
Public Works	\$248,888	\$264,728
Recreation	\$79,610	\$139,500
Salmon Point Campground	\$75,589	\$80,120
Wastewater	<u>\$72,157</u>	<u>\$79,007</u>
	\$3,719,129	\$4,352,577
<i>Approved 2021/2022</i>	<i>\$3,719,129</i>	<i>Board of Selectmen Recommend \$4,352,577</i>

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to accept Article 8 in the amount of \$4,352,577.
Second from Selectman Tworog. All in favor.

Article 8 was passed in the amount of 4,352,577.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,182,551 for the cost of General Government to include Contingency and Long-Term Debt.

	Approved 2021/2022	Board of Selectmen Recommend
Administration	\$371,816	\$407,630
Assessing	\$60,821	\$58,000
BOS/PB (excluding stipends)	\$5,714	\$5,064
Code Enforcement	\$141,351	\$152,292
Community Development	\$160,443	\$194,775
Contingency	\$30,000	\$30,000
Employee Benefits	\$878,302	\$973,342
Finance	\$148,676	170,467
General Assistance	\$22,344	21,484
Insurance	\$186,437	\$189,603
Legal	\$18,000	\$15,000
Long Term Debt	\$631,766	\$1,095,774
Municipal Complex (3 Chase St)	\$116,240	\$115,838
Recreation	\$361,232	\$506,023
Town Clerk	<u>\$213,875</u>	<u>\$247,259</u>
	\$3,347,017	\$4,182,551
<i>Approved 2021/2022</i>	<i>\$3,347,017</i>	<i>Board of Selectmen Recommend \$4,182,551</i>

Motion was made by Selectman McHatton to accept Article 9 in the amount of \$4,182,551.
Second from Selectman Tworog. All in favor.

Article 9 was passed in the amount of \$4,182,551.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,730,271 for the cost of Public Safety.

	Approved 2021/2022	Board of Selectmen Recommend
Ambulance	\$52,700	\$54,400
Animal Control	\$24,327	\$24,327
Civil Emergency	\$20,884	\$31,392
Fire Department	\$348,606	\$342,111
Health Officer	\$3,828	\$4,114
Hydrants	\$236,780	\$257,371
Police Department	\$988,869	\$981,583
Streetlights	<u>\$37,575</u>	<u>\$34,973</u>
	\$1,713,569	1,730,271
	<i>Approved 2021/2022 \$1,713,569</i>	<i>Board of Selectmen Recommend \$1,730,271</i>

Motion was made by Chairman Lone to accept Article 10 in the amount of \$1,730,271.

Second from Vice-Chairman Zaidman. All in favor.

Article 10 was passed in the amount of 1,730,271.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,918,579 for Public Works and Capital Expenditures/Other Services.

	Approved 2021/2022	Board of Selectmen Recommend
Town Garage	\$23,662	\$30,562
Capital Expenditures	\$620,000	\$625,000
Cemeteries	\$56,550	\$58,192
HAM Complex	\$0	\$89,691
Parks Department	\$205,066	\$222,780
Pondicherry Park	\$6,550	\$5,400
Public Works Department	\$758,098	\$812,170
Septic Disposal	\$750	\$750
Town Hall (26 N. High St.)	\$33,960	\$28,475
Transfer Station	\$590,253	\$667,072
Vehicle Maintenance	<u>\$376,516</u>	<u>\$378,487</u>
	\$2,671,405	\$2,918,579
	<i>Approved 2021/2022 \$2,671,405</i>	<i>Board of Selectmen Recommend \$2,918,579</i>

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to accept Article 11 in the amount of \$2,918,579.

Second from Selectman McHatton. All in favor.

Article 11 was passed in the amount of 2,918,579.

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$16,500 for the cost of annual stipends for the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board.

Approved 2021/2022 \$16,500 Board of Selectmen Recommend \$16,500

Motion was made by Selectman McHatton to accept Article 12 in the amount of \$16,500.

Second from Selectman Tworog. All in favor.

Article 12 was passed in the amount of 16,500.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,118 for Outside Agencies.

	Approved 2021/2022	Board of Selectmen Recommend
Bridgton Community Band	\$2,150	\$2,415
LEA Milfoil	\$1,500	\$1,500
LEA Boat Inspection	\$2,900	\$2,900
LR Chamber	\$3,500	\$4,800
LEA Subsidy	\$1,950	\$1,950
Lake Region Bus	\$8,500	\$8,500
Regional Transport	\$1,500	\$1,500
Opportunity Alliance	\$2,000	\$2,000
Tri-County Mental Health	\$1,000	\$1,000
Southern Maine Area on Aging	\$2,000	\$2,500
Through the Doors	\$2,000	\$2,000
Bridgton Historical Society	\$6,000	\$6,000
Lake Region Senior Service (HAP)	\$3,000	\$3,000
Sexual Assault Prevention	\$750	\$750
Lifeflight	\$1,300	\$1,303
Easy Riders	\$2,500	\$3,000
BRAG	<u>\$20,000</u>	<u>0</u>
	\$62,550	\$45,118

Approved 2021/2022 \$62,550 Board of Selectmen Recommend \$45,118

Motion was made by Selectman Tworog to accept Article 13 in the amount of \$45,118

Second from Chairman Lone. All in favor.

Article 13 was passed in the amount of 45,118.

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$222,429 for Outside Services.

	Approved 2021/2022	Board of Selectmen Recommend
Bridgton Community Center	\$76,937	\$97,429
Bridgton Public Library	\$84,000	\$90,000
Lakes Region TV Franchise	<u>\$33,0000</u>	<u>\$35,000</u>
	\$193,937	\$222,429

Approved 2021/2022 \$193,937 Board of Selectmen Recommend \$222,429

Motion was made by Chairman Lone to accept Article 14 in the amount of \$222,429.

Second from Vice-Chairman Zaidman. All in favor.

Article 14 was passed in the amount of 222,429.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$938,775 for County Fees and Taxes.

Approved 2021/2022 \$893,4060 Board of Selectmen Recommend \$938,775

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to accept Article 15 in the amount of \$938,775.

Second from Selectman McHatton. All in favor.

Article 15 was passed in the amount of 938,775.

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$198,767 from the Community Development Block Grant for community development projects approved by the Board of Selectmen.

Approved 2021/2022 \$198,767

Board of Selectmen Recommend 198,767

Motion was made by Selectman McHatton to accept Article 16 in the amount of \$198,767.

Second from Selectman Tworog. All in favor.

Article 16 was passed in the amount of 198,767.

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to expend, up to \$306,000 from the Route 302 Tax Increment Development Program for the purposes of that program.

Approved 2021/2022 \$259,096

Board of Selectmen Recommend \$306,000

Motion was made by Selectman Tworog to accept Article 17 in the amount of \$306,000.

Second from Chairman Lone. All in favor.

Article 17 was passed in the amount of 306,000.

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to fix the date when property taxes become due and payable with the first quarter payment being due and payable on August 15, 2022; second payment being due and payable on November 15, 2022; third payment being due and payable on February 15, 2023; fourth payment being due and payable on May 15, 2023 and that an interest rate of 4% per annum be charged on all unpaid taxes after these dates until those taxes are paid in full (36 MRS § 505.4).

Motion was made by Chairman Lone to accept Article 18 as written.

Second from Vice-Chairman Zaidman. All in favor.

Article 18 was passed as written.

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to set an interest rate of 2% as the rate to be paid to taxpayers who pay amounts in excess of amounts finally assessed and authorize any such interest paid or abatements granted to be charged against the annual overlay (36 MRS § 506).

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to accept Article 19 as written.

Second from Selectman McHatton. All in favor.

Article 19 was passed as written.

Motion was made by Vice-Chairman Zaidman to accept Article 20 through Article 31 in a block motion. Second from Selectman McHatton. All in favor.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to fix the rate of interest on delinquent wastewater charges at 4% interest per annum.

Article 20 was passed as written.

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept pre-payment of taxes not yet due or assessed (36 MRS § 506).

Article 21 was passed as written.

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into boundary line agreements with abutting property owners to establish the boundary line of any property of the Town, including the boundary lines of the rights-of-way of roads.

Article 22 was passed as written.

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to waive the foreclosure of a tax lien mortgage pursuant to 36 MRS § 944 upon a finding by the Board of Selectmen that ownership of the property subject to the lien would be contrary to the Town's best interest.

Article 23 was passed as written.

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they deem advisable, and to execute quitclaim deeds for the property; with property to be disposed of by written policy and on terms the Board of Selectmen deem advisable, except that the Municipal Officers shall use the special sale process required by 36 MRS § 943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s).

Article 24 was passed as written.

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of wastewater assessments thereon, on such terms as they deem advisable, and to execute quitclaim deeds for the property; property to be disposed of by written policy and on terms the Board of Selectmen deem advisable.

Article 25 was passed as written.

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell Town-owned land that the Board of Selectmen has determined to be surplus, other than land acquired for non-payment of taxes or wastewater assessments, and to conduct the sale of such land by sealed bid, public auction or through an agent or multiple listing, whichever the Board of Selectmen deems to be in the best interest of the Town; and to deliver a quitclaim deed to the successful purchaser; provided that at least 30 days prior to selling, or obligating the Town to sell, such surplus land, the Town shall mail written notice to the abutters at their addresses on file with the Town, give notice on the Town's website, post at least one notice on a social media platform used by the Town, and publish at least one notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town? The net proceeds of any sale shall be deposited into the Town's general fund.

Article 26 was passed as written.

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of all unexpended balances to fund balance, excepting those carried forward funds, and to authorize any overdrafts that may occur in the Town operations in the 2022/2023 fiscal year to be taken from fund balance.

Article 27 was passed as written.

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell or dispose of equipment that is no longer of any use or is unusable.

Article 28 was passed as written.

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen and Treasurer, on behalf of the Town, to accept gifts, real estate, and funds, including trust funds, that may be given or left to the Town.

Article 29 was passed as written.

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept grants on behalf of the Town, and to expend the proceeds thereof for the purposes for which they are received, provided that the terms of the grants do not require the Town to expend other funds which have not been appropriated by the Town.

Article 30 was passed as written.

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to participate in the Cumberland County Housing and Community Development Programs of the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, including but not limited to the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) and the HOME Program; to designate its population to be included in the calculation of Cumberland County's funds by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to execute an agreement with Cumberland County to formalize the same.

Article 31 was passed as written.

Moderator Wisner administered the oath of office to the following newly elected officials:

Kenneth J. Murphy, Selectman/Assessor/Overseer of the Poor

Deborah Brusini, Planning Board Member

Catherine DiPietro, Alternate Planning Board Member

Deputy Moderator Collins called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by Ms. Brusini to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 P.M.; Second from Ms. DiPietro. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie L. Chadbourne
Town Clerk