

OFFICIAL WARRANT FOR THE TOWN OF NORTHPORT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
To be held on June 2, 2018 and June 4, 2018

To: Jeanine Tucker, Town Clerk of the Town of Northport in the County of Waldo, 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 Northport in said County and State, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs to appear at the Northport Town Hall on Saturday, June 2, 2018 at 8:00a.m., there and then to act upon Articles 1 through 4,

AND

To notify and warn said voters to meet at the Edna Drinkwater School on Monday, June 4, 2018 at 7:00p.m. there and then to act upon Articles 5 through 52 inclusive.

Article 1. To Choose a Moderator to preside at said Town Meeting.

At 8a.m. Saturday June 2, 2018 Town Clerk Jeanine Tucker opened the meeting by greeting those present at the Town Hall for the purpose of acting on Articles 1 through 4. Motion was made by Reeves Gilmore and second by Paul Sheridan to nominate Dee Reid as Moderator of the election portion of the Town Meeting. Sheridan, Gilmore, and Tucker cast written ballots for Reid and entered them into the record. Reid was sworn in as Moderator by Town Clerk Jeanine Tucker. Reid announced that the polls were officially open for voting on Articles 2 through 4.

Article 2. To elect by secret ballot:

One (1) Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor for a three (3) year term. **(Zak Hollingshead 103 votes)**

One (1) School Committee Member for a three (3) year term.
(Sandy Wallace 115 Votes)

Article 3. Shall an ordinance entitled ‘Town of Northport Local Food Sovereignty Ordinance’ be enacted? *An attested, copy of the full text of this ordinance has been posted together with this warrant, and copies are available from the office of the Town Clerk and will be available at the polls. The Municipal Officers had ordered this secret ballot referendum vote. (94 Yes/ 27No)*

Article 4. Shall an ordinance entitled ‘Ordinance Prohibiting Retail Marijuana Establishments and Retail Marijuana Social Clubs in the Municipality of Northport’ be enacted? *An attested, copy of the full text of this ordinance has been posted together with this warrant, and copies are available from the office of the Town Clerk and will be available at the polls. The Municipal Officers had ordered this secret ballot referendum vote. (60 Yes/67 No)*

At 7p.m., prior to the opening of Town Meeting, on Monday June 4, 2018 Tucker asked Herman Littlefield to lead with the Pledge of Allegiance. Littlefield obliged. After the conclusion of the Pledge; Littlefield spoke to those in attendance about flags displayed on the utility poles in town. He spoke of the need for donations to purchase replacement flags, as many have been lost to wear and damage over the past few years. He explained that the cost of a flag, pole and bracket is \$40 and how people can donate to the fund.

Chairman Mark Humphreys welcomed the public and thanked everyone for attending. Humphreys stated that the Board would like to recognize Drexell White for his nine year term as a Selectman. Humphreys expressed sincere appreciation, on behalf of the Board and the Town, for the knowledge and attention to detail that White has demonstrated during his tenure as he presented White with a nautical plaque.

Town Administrator Barbara Ashey reiterated Humphreys statements and added that the experience and responsibilities White has had with his various duties working for the State benefitted the Town greatly. She noted that he brought with him an incredible sense of detail as well as a knowledge of Statutes and Laws. Ashey continued by explaining these traits he willingly brought to the table earned him the nickname "Professor" as she presented him with an embossed pen, for his grammatical talents, in appreciation.

White thanked everyone for the recognition and provided kudo's to all Town staff. He stated that the Town has an incredible group of people standing behind it, including members of the Select Board; Town Administrator; Clerk and Deputy Clerk; Finance Director; Transfer Station Attendants; Road Commissioner; Code Officers and all the Planning Board members. White said that it has been an honor working with everyone.

Town Clerk Jeanine Tucker opened the Annual Town Meeting at 7:10p.m. by greeting the 48 residents present at the Edna Drinkwater School for the purpose of acting on Articles 5 through 52. Tucker read aloud the results of voting June 2, 2018, prior to calling for nominations for Moderator to preside over Town Meeting, as follows:

There were 127 votes cast at the polls. Zachary "Zak" Hollingshead was elected as Selectman with 103 votes; Stephen Hemmenway; Gerry Reid; Terri McAlister and Denise Lindahl all received 1 write-in vote. Anne "Sandy" Wallace was re-elected as School Committee Member with 115 votes and Darcy Curtis received 1 write-in vote.

The "Town of Northport Local Food Sovereignty Ordinance" was enacted with 94 votes in favor and 27 votes opposed.

The "Ordinance Prohibiting Retail Marijuana Establishments and Retail Marijuana Social Clubs in the Municipality of Northport" was defeated with 60 votes in favor and 67 votes opposed.

Tucker announced that Bill Kelly was gracious in offering to volunteer his time to serve as Moderator and called for nominations. Nomination was made by Reeves Gilmore, second by Robin Coombs to have Bill Kelly serve as Moderator over Annual Town Meeting. Three ballots were cast in favor of Kelly. Kelly recited his oath and Tucker witnessed, swearing him in as Moderator over Town Meeting.

Kelly announced that there were multiple candidates, and listed off each of their names, that would like the opportunity to speak prior to conducting Town Meeting business and this would require approval by a 2/3 vote, as they are not residents of the Town. Kelly added that the Town Administrator Barbara Ashey; Finance Director for the Town, Vicki Eugley; and School personnel Superintendent Judy Harvey and Finance Manager Luci Milewski were also not residents of the Town and would require the same approval. Kelly asked to make one

motion allowing for all non-residents to speak on specific matters. Motion was made and second; all in favor- none opposed.

Kelly informed each candidate they had two minutes to speak. Candidates Joe Greenier for State Senate District 11 spoke first, followed by Jan Dodge for the House of Representatives; Betty Johnson for County Commissioner; Caitlin Hills for House of Representatives; Jayne Giles and Erin Herbig for State Senate.

Article 5. To see what amount of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to pay the Selectmen/Assessors/Overseers of the Poor for the ensuing year. (Current salary–Selectmen \$3,500.00– Selectman Chair \$4,000.00) Selectmen recommend no change.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 6. To see what amount of money the Town will vote to pay the Road Commissioner, Road Workers, Trucks and Equipment for the ensuing year. (Selectmen recommend State Rates plus 10% for routine road maintenance. Major road reconstruction to follow the competitive bid process.)

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 7. To see what amount of money the Town will vote to pay members of the Planning Board. (Current pay \$27.50 for each member per meeting attended; and \$32.50 for the Chairman for each meeting attended.) Selectmen recommend no change.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

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Article 8. To see what amount of money the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, carry forward and expend for the following accounts. Selectmen recommend the following:

Department	Raise From Taxes	Estimated Carry Forward*	Estimated Revenue*	Total Appropriation*
A) Administration	\$181,200.12	N/A	N/A	\$181,200.12
B) Ambulance	\$14,970.00	N/A	N/A	\$14,970.00
C) Animal Control	\$8,750.00	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00 (from Dog Licenses)	\$12,750.00
D) Assessing Contract	\$22,000.00	N/A	N/A	\$22,000.00
E) Cemetery Development	\$0.00	\$4,613.50	N/A	\$4,613.50
F) Cemetery Maint.	\$12,000.00	\$2,500.00	N/A	\$14,500.00
G) Code Enforcement Office	\$24,000.00	N/A	\$ 4,000.00(from Permits)	\$28,000.00
H) Contingency Fund	\$10,000.00	N/A	N/A	\$10,000.00
I) Emergency Management	\$2,700.00	N/A	N/A	\$2,700.00
J) Employee Benefits	\$27,500.00	N/A	N/A	\$27,500.00
K) First Responders- Equipment	\$5,000.00	N/A	N/A	\$5,000.00
L) First Responders- Operating	\$10,000.00	N/A	N/A	\$10,000.00
M) General Assistance	\$0.00	\$3,400.00	\$1,000.00 (from 70% State reimbursement)	\$4,400.00
N) Harbor Fund	\$10,000.00	\$2,200.00	\$ 4,000.00(from Boat Excise)	\$16,200.00
O) Insurance	\$22,000.00	N/A	N/A	\$22,000.00
P) Legal	\$25,000.00	N/A	N/A	\$25,000.00
Q) Marine Special Reserve	\$20,000.00	N/A	N/A	\$20,000.00
R) Northport Vol. Fire Dept. Operations	\$50,800.00	N/A	N/A	\$50,800.00
S) NVFD Chief Stipend	\$10,000.00	N/A	N/A	\$10,000.00
T) NVFD Truck Replacement	\$20,000.00	N/A	N/A	\$20,000.00
U) Office Operations	\$50,000.00	N/A	\$18,000.00 (from Tax Interest /Charges)	\$68,000.00
V) Payroll Taxes	\$26,000.00	N/A	N/A	\$26,000.00
W) Personal Time Payable	\$7,721.77	\$5,172.44	N/A	\$12,894.21
X) Planning Board	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$200.00	\$5,200.00
Y) Records Preservation	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	N/A	\$2,500.00
Z) Roads & Bridges	\$200,000.00	\$425,000.00	\$250,000 (from Auto Excise) \$35,680.00 (from State L.R.A.P.)	\$910,680.00
AA) Septage Contract	\$4,000.00	N/A	N/A	\$4,000.00
BB) Snow Removal & Sanding	\$205,000.00	N/A	N/A	\$205,000.00
CC) Social Services	\$7,500.00	N/A	N/A	\$7,500.00
DD) Street Lights	\$1,200.00	N/A	N/A	\$1,200.00
EE) Town Hall Building Fund	\$25,000.00	\$14,500.00	N/A	\$39,500.00
FF) Town Hall Operations	\$25,000.00	N/A	N/A	\$25,000.00
GG) Transfer Station	\$75,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$67,000.00(Stickers/Metals/Brush & Debris Fees)	\$192,000.00
HH) Wyman Park	\$700.00	N/A	N/A	\$700.00

*based on estimated amounts **\$1,105,541.89** **\$515,385.94** **\$380,880.00** **\$2,001,807.83**

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. Gerry Reid asked what last years approved amounts were; Finance Director Vicki Eugley stated that the total approved last year was \$1,107,127.37 and that this budget is up \$28,414.00 over last year. Resident Dan Small asked what item "W" represents. Eugley explained that Personal Time Payable is the result of a policy change that reflects actual accrued time due for an employee if they vacate their position. Small asked about the Transfer Station line under "GG" inquiring if it could be dropped by \$30,000.00. Eugley

explained that the increase reflects unknown increases in contracts with Pine Tree and unanticipated expenses.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. All in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate and expend \$5,000.00 for the Northport Scholarship Fund for second semester Northport college freshmen.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate and expend funds for the Northport Village Corporation an amount of \$25,000.00.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of unexpended funds from the Northport Volunteer Fire Dept. 2018 operating budget as of 6/30/2018 to the Fire Truck Replacement Special Reserve Account.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. A resident asked how much remains in unexpended funds; Eugley replied that the current balance is \$19,351.68 with a month to go. Eugley added that the reserve account has \$132,012.65 in it currently and that it helps offset the money needed through bonding when purchasing a new truck, an approximate expense of \$300,000.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. All in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of unexpended funds from the Northport First Responders 2018 operating and equipment budget as of 6/30/2018 to the First Responders Equipment Special Reserve Fund.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. A resident asked how much remains in unexpended funds; Eugley replied that the current balance is \$2,679.79 with a month to go. Eugley added that the reserve account has \$50,019.92 in it currently and that it covers replacement of the First Responder rig or other big equipment need.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. All in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of Mooring Fees collected as of 6/30/2018 to the Marine Special Reserve Fund.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. Eugley stated that \$4,585 has been collected in mooring fees to date and that the Marine Reserve has \$81,558.35 for a balance. A resident asked what the reserve account is used for. Eugley replied that these funds have been used for the matching grant for float replacement in Saturday Cove and would be used for harbor needs.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. All in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to continue the ZeroSort Recycling program.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. Residents spoke of concerns of no replacement option for recycling and asked the Board what options they had looked for. Asheley stated that this Article was intended to get a feel for what the residents would like to do, and that no research for other options has been conducted. Asheley explained that currently ZeroSort, which was the 'go-to' option for recycling, is not being recycled as intended. Eugley had drafted a breakdown of cost comparisons since the Town began participating in the program. Residents stated that they do not mind paying for the program, but want assurances that the materials are being recycled as intended. The question was asked, if ZeroSort is voted down, they would be able to continue recycling by sorting items as in past practices. Asheley replied that the Board would have to discuss it and search for options. Humphreys added that the Board needs and wants feedback from the Town and that they do not want to make a decision without that input.

Sheridan asked if the Article could be tabled until information for other options can be provided, and made a motion to do so. The motion had a second.

Kelly stated that the Article needs to be addressed as written and that a motion to table acknowledges there is more work that needs to be done before opting out of the program.

Resident Toupie Rooney asked if there were any residents that would be willing to serve on a committee, and work with the Select Board, to help look for options, as the Board has limited time to research options.

Kelly explained that in considering the motion to table, it would make it appear as though the Article were never written and called for a vote on the motion to table. 12 in favor; majority opposed- motion to table was defeated.

Kelly called to move the Article.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. All in favor to continue the ZeroSort program-one opposed. Article passed.

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of Vital Records Fees collected as of 6/30/2018 to the Records Preservation Special Reserve Fund.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of unexpended funds from the 2018 Records Preservation operating budget as of 6/30/2018 to the Records Preservation Special Reserve Fund.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the sale of cemetery lots with 50% of the revenue to be placed in the Cemetery Capital Reserve Account and 50% to be placed in the Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust Account.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. A resident asked how many unused lots/plots are available in town. Asheley explained that the only cemetery with space available is the Beech Ridge Cemetery near the Transfer Station. Another resident asked if this Article was customary, or if it were a new policy. Eugley explained that it is typical to vote on this every year and the percentage to cover perpetual care is required.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. All in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Article 18. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to expend such monies deemed necessary from the following Reserve Funds, or to take any action relative to same.

Cemetery Capital Reserve Account
Children's Christmas Special Reserve
Digital Mapping Special Reserve
Education Special Reserve (MEPERS)
Fire Truck Replacement Special Reserve
First Responders Equipment Special Reserve
Marine Reserve Special Reserve
Records Preservation Special Reserve
Sand/Salt Shed Special Reserve
Wyman Park Fund

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to carry forward the balances of the following accounts as of 6/30/2018 and allow expenditures of same:

Town Hall A.E.D.
Northport Needy Families
Northport Warm Neighbors Fund
Snowmobile Reimbursement Fund
Education Special Revenue Accounts

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to use \$150,000.00 from the Undesignated Fund Balance to reduce the 2018/2019 tax commitment.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. Small asked how these funds are invested. Eugley stated that currently all the funds are being held at The First, with most of the funds earning a 1.25% interest rate in a collateralized account.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. All in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to dispose of Real Estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of Taxes thereon, on such terms as they deem advisable and to execute Quit Claim Deeds on same.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to fix a rate of interest on taxes delinquent October 1, 2018; and March 2, 2019. (Selectmen recommend State authorized rate of 8%)

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 23. To see if the Town will set a rate of interest for refunded taxes due to over assessments. (Selectmen recommend State authorized rate of 8%)

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to expend Overlay or Undesignated Fund Balance monies, to pay tax abatements and applicable interest granted during the fiscal year.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the tax collector to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. §506.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to enter into an Alewife Harvesting Program, with or without the Town of Lincolnville, for the 2018-2019 season, and close the Duck Trap River and all its tributaries to any taking of alewives or blueback herring.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to accept the following grants and revenue from the State of Maine and allow the Selectmen to use them as they deem necessary. *All dollar amounts are estimates.*

State Revenue Sharing	\$ Unknown
Veterans	\$ 1,230.00
Snowmobile Registrations	\$ 264.80
Local Road Assistance	\$ 35,680.00
General Assistance	\$ Unknown
Civil Emergency Funds	\$ Unknown
Online Burn Permit	\$ 104.00
Education Funds/Grants	\$ Unknown
Tree Growth	\$ 1,403.68
All Other Funds Available	\$ Unknown

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. A resident asked why there are unknowns; Eugley replied that the Town never knows what the State will forward and the Town cannot accept the funds without resident approval.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. All in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to give the Northport Ridge Riders (a snowmobile club) funds that the State of Maine returned to the Town in the amount of \$264.80 from snowmobile registrations, to be used to maintain snowmobile trails in Northport.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-one opposed. Article passed.

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to allow the Selectmen to accept and expend educational and other grants and donations, or gifts, for the reason specified in the grant, donation or gift.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to dispose of Town owned assets with a value of \$3,000.00 or less under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of \$1,172,620.97 established for the Town of Northport by State law, in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit. (Written ballot required by statute.)

White made a motion to table the Article. Eugley stated that the budget is not over the tax levy limit and there is no need to vote on the Article. The motion to table received a second. All in favor- none opposed.

School Budget Articles to Appropriate Monies for the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Articles Pursuant to 20-A M.R.S.A. §1485 and §15690

Article 32. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Regular Instruction. School Committee Recommends **\$1,578,880.**

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 33. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Special Education. School Committee Recommends **\$400,991.**

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 34. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Other Instruction. School Committee Recommends **\$28,621.**

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. Resident Paul Nyren asked what this line funds; Superintendent Judy Harvey explained that this item funds extra-curricular & co-curricular activities; the after school program and athletics.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. All in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Article 35. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Student and Staff Support. School Committee Recommends **\$221,717.**

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. Nyren asked what this line funds; Harvey explained that this item funds enhanced instruction; library services; assessment testing; the nurse and guidance.

Nyren asked why these items were not included in Article 32; School Finance Manager Luci Milewski explained that the State decides what goes into each cost center. Nyren confirmed that these are drafted to be in compliance with the State; Harvey replied that all of the school budget Articles are drafted to be in compliance.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. All in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Article 36. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for System Administration. School Committee Recommends **\$148,262.**

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. Small asked for definition of this line. Harvey explained that this item covers the Superintendent; Central Office; School Board; Administrative Office Salaries and the Principal's Office.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. All in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Article 37. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for School Administration. School Committee Recommends **\$182,447.**

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 38. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Transportation and Buses. School Committee Recommends **\$114,708.**

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. A resident asked if the school would be looking at more environmentally friendly busses; Harvey explained that the school has a contract for bussing and that would depend on the contractor. Small asked how many years remain on the current bussing contract; Harvey stated that the contract is for 5 years and they are in year 3.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. All in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Article 39. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Facilities Maintenance. School Committee Recommends **\$193,500.**

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. Kelly called for questions & comments. No discussion, all in favor-none opposed. Article passed.

Article 40. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments. School Committee Recommends **\$333,165.**

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. A resident asked if the school would be looking at ways to reduce the debt. School Committee Member Deb Reilly explained that some of this debt is carried over from when Northport was still part of MSAD

#34, which will be satisfied in 2024. Reily assured those present that the debt obligation will go down, but there is also the bond that was approved by the residents, for school improvements after the withdrawal, that will be paid down over many years.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. All in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Article 41. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Food Service Transfers. School Committee Recommends **\$41,354.**

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. Small asked for information on how situations are handled if families cannot pay the reduced lunch rate. Milewski stated that there is a collection process that is followed, but students are not denied a real meal if they owe. Small asked if he could be provided numbers for amounts owed; Milewski said she could.

A resident asked for clarification on the term 'transfers'. Milewski explained that this would be funds that would be used to offset the cost of the program.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. All in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

PLEASE NOTE: *Actions taken pursuant to the following four articles must be taken by a recorded vote. (Written ballot required by statute.)*

Article 42. To see what sum the Town of Northport will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act (**School Committee Recommends \$2,028,217.84**) and to see what sum the municipality will raise as the municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688. **School Committee Recommends \$1,798,144.21.**

"Explanation: The school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that a municipality must raise in order to receive the full amount of state dollars."

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. A resident asked for clarification on the two amounts listed in the Article. Milewski stated that the State would commit \$230,073.63, the difference of the two figures, to the overall budget if the residents approve the \$1,798,144.21.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. 44 in favor - 1 opposed. Article passed.

Article 43. To see what sum the Town of Northport will raise and appropriate for the annual payments on debt service previously approved by the legislative body for non-state-funded school construction projects, or non-state-funded portions of school construction projects in addition to the funds appropriated as the local share of the school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12. **School Committee Recommends \$270,378.**

Article 43. CONT'D

“Explanation: Non-state-funded debt service is the amount of money needed for the annual payments on the municipality’s long-term debt for major capital school construction projects at the Edna Drinkwater School and Northport’s share of long-term debt for major capital school construction projects in RSU 71 (previously MSAD 34) that are not approved for state subsidy. The bonding of this long-term debt was previously approved by the voters.”

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. 44 in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Article 44. Shall the Town of Northport raise and appropriate **\$903,695.64** in additional local funds, which exceeds the State’s Essential Programs and Services allocation model by **\$903,695.64** as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Committee?

The School Committee recommends **\$903,695.64** for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State’s Essential Programs and Services funding model by **\$903,695.64**.

“Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the school administrative unit’s local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the Northport School Department budget for educational programs.”

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. A resident asked why spend more than necessary. Milewski explained that certain items are not fully funded and this helps meet the needs of the school with small amounts going to all areas.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. 43 in favor -1 opposed. Article passed.

Article 45. To see what sum the Town of Northport will authorize the Northport School Committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019 from the Town of Northport’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools. **School Committee Recommends \$3,243,645.**

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. Harvey explained that this is the cumulative Article with all items grouped together for the bottom line. She added that there is absolutely no increase in taxation as a result of the school budget.

With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. 44 in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Article 46. Shall the Town of Northport appropriate **\$182,293.22** from the school unit's unassigned fund balance to offset taxes in the 2018-2019 budget?

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. 44 in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Article 47. Shall the Town of Northport appropriate **\$50,000.00** from the MEPEERS funds reserved for education to offset taxes in the 2018-2019 budget?

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. 44 in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Article 48. Shall the School Committee be authorized to establish a **Special Education Reserve Account** and transfer a sum no greater than **\$25,000** from unexpended balances at the end of the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year to the **Special Education Reserve Account** for the purpose of providing special education services either in-house or in an out-of-district placement program?

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. 44 in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Article 49. Shall the School Committee be authorized to expend funds in the **Special Education Reserve Account** for the purpose that such reserve account was created, and in the amount not to exceed **\$25,000** for the year beginning July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019?

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. 44 in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Article 50. In the event that the Northport School Department receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in this budget, shall the School Committee be authorized, in its discretion, to use all or part of the additional state subsidy to **increase expenditures for the school purposes in the cost center categories approved by the School Committee, and/or decrease the allocation of finances in a reserve fund approved by the School Committee, and/or decrease the local cost share expectation, as defined in Title 20-A section 15671 A(1)(B), for local property taxpayers for funding public education as approved by the School Board?**

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. 44 in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Article 51. Shall the School Committee be authorized to expend other sums as may be received from federal and state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school purposes, provided that such grants, programs or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated?

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. 44 in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Article 52. Shall the School Committee be authorized to transfer an excess of 5% between cost centers, not to exceed the total spending allocation for the 2017-2018 school year, to balance accounts?

Motion was made and second to approve the recommended amount. With no further discussion the Article moved to vote. 44 in favor -none opposed. Article passed.

Principal Todd Martin invited everyone to attend the end of year bar-b-que Thursday June 7th at 5:15p.m.

A motion to adjourn was made and second at 8:50p.m. All in favor-none opposed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanine Tucker
Town Clerk