

**OFFICIAL WARRANT FOR THE TOWN OF NORTHPORT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

To be held on June 1, 2019 and June 3, 2019



To: Amy Eldridge, 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 1, 2019 at 8:00a.m., there and then to act upon Articles 1 through 6

AND

To notify and warn said voters to meet at the Edna Drinkwater School on Monday, June 3, 2019 at 7:00p.m. there and then to act upon Articles 7 through 47 inclusive.

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

On Saturday June 1, 2019 Town Clerk Amy Eldridge opened the meeting by greeting those present at the Town Hall for the purpose of action on Articles 1 through 6. Motion was made by W. Reeves Gilmore and second by Robin Coombs to nominate Dee Reid as Moderator of the election portion of the Town Meeting. Gilmore, Coombs, and Eldridge cast written ballots for Reid and entered them into the record. Reid was sworn in as Moderator by Town Clerk Amy Eldridge.

Article 2. To elect by secret ballot:

One (1) Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor for a three (3) year term.

(Jeanine Tucker 127 votes, Anita Alley 1 vote, 9 blank votes)

One (1) School Committee Member for a three (3) year term.

(Debora Riley 119 votes, Jeanine Tucker 1 vote, Sandy Wallace 1 vote, 16 blank votes)

One (1) Road Commissioner for a two (2) year term.

(Amon Morse III 127 votes, Bill Magruder 1 vote, 9 blank votes)

Article 3. Shall a revised ordinance entitled Town of Northport Harbor 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. (97 Yes / 36 No / 4 blanks) Article passed.*

Article 4. Shall a revised ordinance entitled Town of Northport Special Amusement 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. (91 Yes / 39 No / 7 blanks) Article passed.*

Article 5. Shall the following amendments to the Town of Northport Administrative Ordinance be enacted? Section 4.04 (B)(3)(q) adds “q. Harbor Committee Members – staggered two year terms”; and Section 4.06 (B)(3)(6) deleted “November 15th” and added December 1st of each year. *An attested, copy of the amendment to 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. (91 Yes / 40 No / 6 blank) Article passed.*

Article 6. Shall the following amendments to the Town of Northport Building Ordinance be enacted? Section 7 (A)(5) added: “Demolition must be completed within one (1) year of the date the Permit was issued. *An attested, copy of the amendment to 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. (92 Yes / 38 No / 7 blank) Article passed.*

There were 44 Northport residents in attendance.

Prior to the opening of Town Meeting on Monday June 3, 2019 Town Clerk Amy Eldridge welcomed the public and thanked everyone for attending. She introduced herself and then asked Herman Littlefield to lead with the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon the conclusion of the Pledge, Littlefield spoke of the need for donations to purchase and maintain American flags on the utility poles in Northport. He explained the cause and how people can donate to the fund.

Eldridge introduced Barbara Ashley Town Administrator who apologized to the public for missing Charlotte Salisbury’s passing in the Town’s Annual Report. Ashley explained that each year the Selectmen nominate someone for the Spirit of America Award. This individual must demonstrate a sense of community through volunteerism. Ashley announced that Patricia Wright has been nominated by the board to receive the Spirit of American Award for 2018. Ashley added that Mrs. Wright was not able to attend the meeting, but will come to a future Selectboard meeting so the Board can express their appreciation personally and present her with a certificate.

Ashey also informed the residents of the new recycling company of DM&J Waste Inc. Information to help with the do’s and don’ts of recycling was being provided and if there are any questions to please reach out to the town

office. Ashey had the Recycling Committee Members stand to be recognized for their commitment to recycling.

Ashey proceeded to introduced Selectman, Zachary Hollingshead. Hollingshead stood and thanked Mark Humphrey's for his 6 years of service as selectman to the Town of Northport. Hollingshead spoke about Humphrey's exemplary leadership, how he lead by example, went above and beyond, and welcomes all with open arms. Hollingshead presented Mark Humphrey with a plaque of appreciation from the Town. Humphrey stood and thanked everyone and expressed that it was his pleasure serving the Town of Northport and welcomed Jeanine Tucker as the new selectman.

Eldridge opened the annual Town Meeting at 7:10 p.m. by greeting the 44 residents present at the Edna Drinkwater School for the Purpose of acting on Articles 7 through 55. Eldridge read aloud the results of the Election on June 1, 2019 at the Town Office, prior to calling for nominations for Moderator to preside over Town Meeting, as follows:

There were 137 votes cast at the polls. Jeanine Tucker was elected as Selectman with 127 votes; Anita Alley received 1 write in vote; and there were 9 blank votes. Debora Riley was re-elected as the Northport School Committee Member with 119 votes; Jeanine Tucker received 1 vote; Sandy Wallace received 1 vote; and there were 16 blank votes. Amon Morse III was re-elected as Road Commissioner with 127 votes; Bill Magruder received 1 vote; and 9 blank votes. Eldridge continued to provide the results of the Straw Poll where 93 voters said Yes that the Town of Northport should vote to enter into the State's Medical and Adult Use Marijuana Act. Cultivation facilities had 85 Yes and 7 No with 1 blank votes, Testing Facilities had 79 Yes and 12 No with 2 blank votes, Products Manufacturing Facilities had 82 Yes and 9 No with 2 blank votes, and Marijuana (Retail) Stores had 88 Yes and 5 No.

Eldridge read Article 1 and asked for any nominations. Nomination was made by Paul Sheridan, seconded by Jeanine Tucker to have Lee Woodward, Jr serve as Moderator over Annual Town Meeting. Three ballots were cast in favor of Woodward. Woodward recited his oath and Eldridge witnessed, swearing him in as Moderator over Town Meeting. Woodward proceeded to introduce our State Representative Janice Dodge who introduced herself and provided all in attendance with current news. She asked all too please keep in touch with her about concerns.

Woodward proceeded to introduce State Senator, Erin Herbig who introduced herself and was happy that Lee Woodward was with us today.

She talked about lower taxes for Northport, working on high speed internet, working on expanded electrician training and RN programs at the Hutchinson Center. She asked everyone as well to please contact her with any concerns. Woodward continued moving forward with the meeting by moving to Article 7.

Article 7. 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. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.***

Article 8. 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. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.***

Article 9. 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 or workshop attended; and \$32.50 for the Chairman for each meeting or workshop attended.) Selectmen recommend no change. ***Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.***

Article 10. 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. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.***

Article 11. 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. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, Majority in favor – two opposed. Article passed.***

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of unexpended funds from the Northport Volunteer Fire Dept. 2019 operating budget as of 6/30/2019 to the Fire Truck Replacement Special Reserve Account. ***Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.***

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of unexpended funds from the Northport First Responders 2019 operating and equipment budget as of 6/30/2019 to the First Responders Equipment Special Reserve Fund. *Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.*

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of Mooring Fees collected as of 6/30/2019 to the Marine Special Reserve Fund. *Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.*

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of Vital Records Fees collected as of 6/30/2019 to the Records Preservation Special Reserve Fund. *Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, 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 Records Preservation 2019 operating budget as of 6/30/2019 to the Records Preservation Special Reserve Fund. *Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, 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. Woodward called for questions & comments. A resident asked if there were any plots available and was the cemetery green. Barbara Ashley reported that there were many plots available at the Beech Ridge Cemetery and explained there are restrictions on types of markers and monuments. All in favor – none opposed. Article passed.*

Article 18. 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: *Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.*

| Department | Raise From Taxes | Estimated Carry Forward* | Estimated Revenue* | Total Appropriation* |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| A) Administration | \$181,920.35 | N/A | N/A | \$181,920.35 |
| B) Ambulance | \$15,719.00 | N/A | N/A | \$15,719.00 |
| C) Animal Control | \$8,750.00 | \$5,000.00 | \$1,000.00 (from Dog Licenses) | \$14,750.00 |
| D) Assessing Contract | \$22,750.00 | N/A | N/A | \$22,750.00 |
| E) Cemetery Maint. | \$10,000.00 | \$4,000.00 | N/A | \$14,000.00 |
| F) Cemetery Development | \$0.00 | \$4,613.50 | N/A | \$4,613.50 |
| G) Code Enforcement Office | \$22,000.00 | N/A | \$5,000.00 (from Permits) | \$27,000.00 |
| H) Contingency Fund | \$10,000.00 | N/A | N/A | \$10,000.00 |
| I) Emergency Management | \$3,000.00 | N/A | N/A | \$3,000.00 |
| J) Employee Benefits | \$32,850.00 | N/A | N/A | \$32,850.00 |
| K) First Responders -Equipment | \$5,000.00 | N/A | N/A | \$5,000.00 |
| L) First Responders - Operating | \$7,800.00 | N/A | N/A | \$7,800.00 |
| M) General Assistance | \$0.00 | \$3,000.00 | \$1,000.00(from 70% State reimburse) | \$4,000.00 |
| N) Harbor Fund | \$15,000.00 | \$8,000.00 | \$4,000.00 (from Boat Excise) | \$27,000.00 |
| 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) Northport Vol. Fire Dept. Operations | \$59,100.00 | N/A | N/A | \$59,100.00 |
| R) NVFD Chief Stipend | \$6,000.00 | N/A | N/A | \$6,000.00 |
| S) NVFD Truck Replacement | \$20,000.00 | N/A | N/A | \$20,000.00 |
| T) Office Operations | \$50,000.00 | N/A | \$18,000.00 (from Tax Int /Charges) | \$68,000.00 |
| U) Payroll Taxes | \$26,000.00 | N/A | N/A | \$26,000.00 |
| V) Personal Time Payable | \$0.00 | \$12,122.91 | N/A | \$12,122.91 |
| W) Planning Board | \$0.00 | \$5,000.00 | \$500.00 | \$5,500.00 |
| X) Records Preservation | \$2,500.00 | N/A | N/A | \$2,500.00 |
| Y) Roads & Bridges | \$200,000.00 | \$400,000.00 | \$275,000.00 (from Auto Excise) \$34,460.00 (from State L.R.A.P.) | \$909,460.00 |
| Z) Septage Contract | \$4,000.00 | N/A | N/A | \$4,000.00 |
| AA) Snow Removal & Sanding | \$205,000.00 | N/A | N/A | \$205,000.00 |
| BB) Social Services | \$7,500.00 | N/A | N/A | \$7,500.00 |
| CC) Street Lights | \$1,200.00 | N/A | N/A | \$1,200.00 |
| DD) Town Hall Building Fund | \$25,000.00 | \$20,000.00 | N/A | \$25,000.00 |
| EE) Town Hall Operations | \$20,000.00 | N/A | N/A | \$20,000.00 |
| FF) Transfer Station | \$50,000.00 | \$75,000.00 | \$60,000.00 (Stickers/Metals/Brush & Debris Fees) | \$185,000.00 |
| GG) Wyman Park | \$700.00 | N/A | N/A | \$700.00 |
| Totals | \$1,058,789.35 | \$536,736.41 | \$398,960.00 | \$1,994,485.76 |

*based on estimated amounts.

Article 19. 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 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. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to carry forward the balances of the following accounts as of 6/30/2019 and allow expenditures of same:

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

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to use \$175,000.00 from the Undesignated Fund Balance to reduce the 2019/2020 tax commitment.

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, Majority in favor – one opposed. Article passed.

Article 22. 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, except that the Municipal Officers shall use the special sale process required by Title 36 M.R.S.A. §943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s). ***Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.***

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to fix a rate of interest on taxes delinquent October 1, 2019; and March 2, 2020. (Selectmen recommend State authorized rate of 9%) *Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.*

Article 24. To see if the Town will set a rate of interest for refunded taxes due to over assessments. (Selectmen recommend State authorized rate of 9%) *Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, majority in favor – one opposed. Article passed.*

Article 25. 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. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.*

Article 26. 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. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.*

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to enter into an Alewife Harvesting Program, with or without the Town of Lincolnville, for the 2019-2020 season, and close the Ducktrap River and all its tributaries to any taking of alewives or blueback herring. *Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.*

Article 28. 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 | \$ 1,010.00 |
| Snowmobile Registrations | \$ 264.80 |
| Local Road Assistance | \$ 34,460.00 |
| General Assistance | \$ Unknown |
| Civil Emergency Funds | \$ Unknown |
| Online Burn Permit | \$ 136.00 |
| Education Funds/Grants | \$ Unknown |
| Tree Growth | \$ 1,371.82 |
| All Other Funds Available | \$ Unknown |

Motion was made and second to approve the Board recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.

Article 29. 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. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, majority in favor – one opposed. Article passed.*

Article 30. 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. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.*

Article 31. 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. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.*

Article 32. To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of \$1,205,950.19 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.) *Motion was made and second to approve the article as presented. Woodward called for questions & comments. The Board stated that no action needed to be taken on this article, at this time, as the levy limit has not been exceeded. Motion was made and second to table the article. All in favor – none opposed.*

School Budget Articles to Appropriate Monies for The Fiscal Year 2019-2020

Articles Pursuant to 20-A M.R.S.A. §1485 and §15690

ARTICLE 33. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Regular Instruction. School Committee Recommends \$ 1,595,359. *Motion was made and second to approve the School Committee recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.*

ARTICLE 34. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Special Education. School Committee Recommends \$ 723,196. *Motion was made and second to approve the School Committee recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, majority in favor – one opposed. Article passed.*

ARTICLE 35. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Other Instruction. School Committee Recommends \$28,517. *Motion was made and second to approve the School Committee recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. A resident asked to clarify “other Instruction”, Luci Milewski, the School Business Manager explained that Other Instruction consists of Co-curricular programs like Art, Music, Theater as well as the athletic programs. All in favor – none opposed. Article passed.*

ARTICLE 36. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Student and Staff Support. School Committee Recommends \$174,818. *Motion was made and second to approve the School Committee recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. A resident asked what the difference between Student and Staff Support. Milewski explained that Student and Staff Support consist of the Library, Guidance, Technology and Staff Training. Majority in favor – one opposed. Article passed.*

ARTICLE 37. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for System Administration. School Committee Recommends \$153,663. *Motion was made and second to approve the School Committee recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. A resident asked what the difference was between System Administration and School Administration. Milewski explained that System Administration is the School Board, Superintendent Office and Business Office. School Administration is the Principal and Secretary in the front office. Each section includes not only staff but also the supplies, equipment, technology and software, etc. specific to those departments. A resident asked how many people are in System and School Administration. Milewski responded with the System Administration consists of 3 school board members, a part-time Superintendent, part-time Business Manager, and part-time Bookkeeper. The School Administration consists of a full-time principal, and full-time secretary. Majority in favor – two opposed. Article passed.*

ARTICLE 38. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for School Administration. School Committee Recommends \$193,581. *Motion was made and second to approve the School Committee recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, majority in favor – one opposed. Article passed.*

ARTICLE 39. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Transportation and Buses. School Committee Recommends \$164,408. *Motion was made and second to approve the School Committee recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, majority in favor – one opposed. Article passed.*

ARTICLE 40. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Facilities Maintenance. School Committee Recommends \$220,414. *Motion was made and second to approve the School Committee recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.*

ARTICLE 41. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments. School Committee Recommends \$313,873. *Motion was made and second to approve the School Committee recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.*

ARTICLE 42. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Food Service Transfers. School Committee Recommends \$53,715. *Motion was made and second to approve the School Committee recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.*

PLEASE NOTE: *Actions taken pursuant to the following articles must be taken by a recorded vote.*

ARTICLE 43. 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 \$1,961,479.13) 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 \$1,828,285.65.**

“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 School Committee recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. A resident asked if Article 43 was a summary of Article 33 through Article 42. Milewski informed the attendees that it was not a summary of Article 33 through Article 42. This article is related to the subsidy that we receive from the state. Article 46 is the summary article of # 33 through #42. A resident asked what number they were voting on and Milewski replied both numbers. \$1,961,479.13 is the amount that the State is willing to contribute towards education in Northport and \$1,828,285.65 is the amount Northport must contribute to get the subsidy of \$133,193.48 which is the difference between \$1,961,479.13 and \$1,828,285.65. A resident asked why we can't vote on articles # 33 through #42 all together like we did for the town's budget. Milewski responded that the State Statute requires that the articles be voted on separately. After written ballots were cast 38 in favor – 3 opposed. Article passed.

ARTICLE 44. 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 \$257,068.**

“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 School Committee recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, 37 in favor – none opposed. Article passed.

ARTICLE 45. Shall the Town of Northport raise and appropriate \$1,138,777 in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$1,138,777 as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Committee?

The School Committee recommends \$1,138,777 for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$1,138,777.

“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 School Committee recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none. After written ballots were cast 37 in favor – 4 opposed. Article passed.

ARTICLE 46. To see what sum the Town of Northport will authorize the Northport School Committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020 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 \$3,621,544. Motion was made and second to approve the School Committee recommended amount. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, 38 in favor – 1 opposed. Article passed.**

ARTICLE 47. Shall the Town of Northport appropriate \$214,196.25 from the school unit's unassigned fund balance to offset taxes in the 2019-2020 school budget. **Motion was made and second to approve as written. Woodward called for questions & comments. A resident asked to explain the article. Milewski explained that the school needs approval to be able to carry a fund balance forward. A resident asked if the \$214,196.25 was in addition to amount in Article 46. Milewski explained that it was in addition to the amount of \$214,196.25 in Article 46. All in favor – none opposed. Article passed.**

ARTICLE 48. Shall the Town of Northport appropriate \$50,000.00 from the MEPERS funds reserved for education to offset taxes in the 2019-2020 budget. **Motion was made and second to approve as written. Woodward called for questions & comments. A resident asked to explain Article 48, Milewski explained that the funds were reimbursement from the state for teacher retirement contribution from RSU 20 and MSAD 34 that is used to reduce taxes. All in favor – none opposed. Article passed.**

ARTICLE 49. Shall the School Committee be authorized to transfer a sum no greater than \$25,000 from unexpended balances at the end of the 2018-2019 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 as written. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.**

ARTICLE 50. 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 \$50,000 for the year beginning July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020? **Motion was made and second to approve as written. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.**

ARTICLE 51. Shall the School Committee be authorized to establish a **Fuel Cost Stabilization Reserve Account** and transfer a sum no greater than \$3,000 from unexpended balances at the end of the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year to the **Fuel Cost Stabilization Reserve Account** for the purpose of offsetting fuel costs for heating and transportation that exceed budgeted amounts. **Motion was made and second to approve as written. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.**

ARTICLE 52. Shall the School Committee be authorized to expend funds in the **Fuel Cost Stabilization Reserve Account** for the purpose that such reserve account was created, and in the amount not to exceed **\$3,000** for the year beginning July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020? ***Motion was made and second to approve as written. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.***

ARTICLE 53. In the event that the Northport School Department receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in its budget, shall the School Committee be authorized, in its discretion, to use all or part of the additional state subsidy to increase expenditures for school purposes in cost center categories approved by the School Committee, increase 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 as written. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.***

ARTICLE 54. 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 as written. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.***

ARTICLE 55. Shall the School Committee be authorized to transfer an excess of 5% between cost centers, not to exceed the total spending allocation for the 2018-2019 school year, to balance accounts. ***Motion was made and second to approve as written. Woodward called for questions & comments. Hearing none, all in favor – none opposed. Article passed.***

Prior to adjournment of the meeting Mark Lynch, School Board Chairman reminded meeting attendees of the June 11th School Budget referendum vote and explained why the referendum was needed. He also explained that every three years there is a second required question that asks the voters if they still want to have to come back the following week after the annual meeting to vote on approving the School Budget. He explained what voting yes would mean and what voting no would mean on that 2nd question. Lynch welcomed all to come and vote. Todd Martin also informed meeting attendees of the concert that would be occurring the following evening as well as the Community Bar- B-Que on June 12, 2019 and invited all to come.

Motion was made, and second, to adjourn at 8:21 p.m. All in favor- none opposed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Eldridge
Town Clerk