

OFFICIAL WARRANT FOR THE TOWN OF NORTHPORT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
To be held on June 9, 2026, and June 15, 2026

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 Office on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at 8:00 a.m., there and then to act upon Articles 1 and 2. The polls will be open for voting on Article 2 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., at which time the meeting will be recessed. The recessed meeting will reconvene at the Edna Drinkwater School on Monday, June 15, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. there and then to act upon the remaining articles in the warrant.

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

Article 2. To elect by secret ballot:

- One (1) Municipal Officer, Assessor, and Overseer for a three (3) year term.
- One (1) Municipal Officer, Assessor, and Overseer for a one (1) year term.
- One (1) School Committee Member for a three (3) year term.

Article 3. Shall an ordinance entitled “Town of Northport Moratorium Ordinance – RV Campgrounds, Glampgrounds, and Event Centers” 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 Town Clerk and will be available at the Town Meeting.*

Article 4. To see what amount of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to pay the Municipal Officers/Assessors/Overseers for the ensuing year. (Current salary–Municipal Officer \$3,500.00– Chair of the Select Board \$4,000.00) *Select Board recommends no change.*

Article 5. To see what amount of money the Town will vote to pay the Road Commissioner, Road Workers, Trucks and Equipment for the ensuing year. (Select Board recommends State Rates plus 10% for routine road maintenance. Major road work to follow the competitive bid process.)

Article 6. To see what amount of money the Town will vote to pay members of the Planning Board. (Current pay \$30.00 for each member per meeting or workshop attended; and \$35.00 for the Chair for each meeting or workshop attended.) *Select Board recommends no change.*

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate and expend up to \$5,000.00 for the Northport Scholarship Fund for second semester Northport college freshmen.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and expend funds for the Northport Village Corporation an amount of \$15,000.00. *Select Board also recommends committing \$15,000.00 from the Town’s Roads & Bridges account for road maintenance and repairs within the boundaries of the Northport Village Corporation.*

The Moderator can accept a motion to consider multiple articles at the same time. If so desired, a single motion can be made to vote on Articles 9-13 together and discussed individually.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of unexpended funds from the Northport Volunteer Fire Dept. 2026 Operating Budget as of 6/30/2026 to the Fire Truck Replacement Special Reserve Account.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of unexpended funds from the Northport First Responders 2026 Operating and Equipment Budget as of 6/30/2026 to the First Responders Equipment Special Reserve Fund.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of Mooring Fees collected as of 6/30/2026 to the Marine Special Reserve Fund.

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of Vital Records Fees collected as of 6/30/2026 to the Records Preservation Special Reserve Fund.

Article 13. 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.

The Moderator can accept a motion to consider multiple articles at the same time. If so desired, a single motion can be made to vote on Articles 14-15 together and discussed individually.

Article 14. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to expend such monies deemed necessary from the following Reserve Accounts, or to take any action relative to same.

- Cemetery Capital Reserve Account
- Children's Christmas Special Reserve
- Climate Resilience Special Reserve
- Digital Mapping Special Reserve
- Education RSU#20 Audit Fund Balance Account
- Fire Equipment Special Reserve
- Fire Truck Replacement Special Reserve
- First Responders Equipment Special Reserve
- Marine Special Reserve
- Records Preservation Special Reserve
- Sand/Salt Shed Special Reserve
- Wyman Park Special Reserve

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to carry forward the balances of the following accounts as of 6/30/2026 and allow expenditures of same:

- Assessing - Revaluation
- Education Fund Balance Account
- Northport Needy Families
- Northport Warm Neighbors Fund
- Snowmobile Reimbursement Fund

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to use \$300,000.00 from the Undesignated Fund Balance to reduce the 2026/2027 tax commitment.

Article 17. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a contract to purchase and install a solar array on Town-owned property at 8 Beech Hill Road (a portion of Tax Map R06-34) on such terms as the Select Board deems in the best interests of the Town?

Note: The Select Board is considering changing the location of the proposed Town-owned solar array from 216 Beech Hill Road to 8 Beech Hill Road, which would require a new contract with the solar installer. There would be no other changes to the size of the array at this time. The contract price for the 42-kilowatt array is \$117,500. The Select Board has raised through donations all the monies necessary to pay for the entire project.

This article does not authorize the spending of any additional monies.

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to establish the Town Hall Construction Account as a non-lapsing account for the purpose of receiving monies for the construction of the new Town Office and Community Center, to expend such monies from the Account as deemed necessary, or to take any action relative to same, and to provide the Select Board with continuing authority to spend from the Account for those purposes without further vote of the town meeting, this authority to remain in force from year to year until rescinded by the town meeting.

Article 19. To see what amount of money the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, carry forward and expend for the following accounts. Select Board recommends the following:

Department	Raise From Taxes	Estimated Carry Forward*	Estimated Revenue*	Total Appropriation*
A)Administration	\$230,809.70			\$230,809.70
B)Ambulance	\$45,133.20			\$45,133.20
C)Animal Control	\$8,900.00	\$13,500.00	(Dog Licenses) \$3,000.00	\$25,400.00
D)Assessing Contract	\$31,000.00			\$31,000.00
E)Broadband/now Digital Equity & Inclusion		\$21,102.48		\$21,102.48
F)Cemetery Maintenance	\$11,500.00	\$4,100.00		\$15,600.00
G)Code Enforcement Office	\$20,000.00		(Permits) \$9,000.00	\$29,000.00
H)Contingency Fund	\$15,000.00			\$15,000.00
I)Dangerous Building		\$20,000.00		\$20,000.00
J)Digital Mapping	\$2,000.00			\$2,000.00
K)Emergency Management	\$3,500.00			\$3,500.00
L)Employee Benefits – Health Insurance	\$41,000.00			\$41,000.00
M)Employee Benefits – Retirement	\$5,000.00			\$5,000.00
N)First Responders - Equipment	\$10,000.00			\$10,000.00
O)First Responders - Operating	\$12,500.00			\$12,500.00
P)General Assistance		\$11,000.00	(State Reimbursement) \$3,000.00	\$14,000.00
Q)Harbor Fund	\$30,000.00	\$5,600.00	(Boat Excise) \$4,500.00	\$40,100.00
R)Insurance	\$40,000.00			\$40,000.00
S)Legal	\$25,000.00			\$25,000.00
T)Northport Vol. Fire Dept. Operations	\$92,200.00			\$92,200.00
U)NVFD Truck Replacement	\$23,000.00			\$23,000.00
V)NVFD Chief Salary	\$7,000.00			\$7,000.00
W)Office Operations	\$81,000.00		(Tax Interest & Charges) \$10,000.00	\$91,000.00
X)Payroll Taxes	\$32,500.00			\$32,500.00
Y)Personal Time Payable	\$5,000.00	\$27,783.31		\$32,783.31
Z)Planning Board		\$6,000.00	(Board Fees) \$500.00	\$6,500.00
AA)Roads & Bridges	\$200,000.00	\$868,000.00	(Auto Excise) \$375,000.00 (State URIP) \$43,352.00	\$1,486,352.00
BB)Septage Contract	\$10,000.00			\$10,000.00
CC)Snow Removal & Sanding	\$340,000.00			\$340,000.00

DD)Social Services	\$7,500.00			\$7,500.00
EE)Street Lights	\$1,500.00			\$1,500.00
FF)Town Hall Building Fund	\$230,000.00	\$200,000.00		\$430,000.00
GG)Town Hall Operations	\$30,000.00			\$30,000.00
HH)Transfer Station	\$150,000.00	\$66,000.00	(Stickers, Demo, Metals) \$118,000.00	\$334,000.00
II)Wyman Park	\$1,750.00			\$1,750.00
Totals	\$1,742,792.90	\$1,243,085.79	\$566,352.00	\$3,552,230.69

*based on estimated amounts. Actual amounts carried forward and received will be applied.

The Moderator can accept a motion to consider multiple articles at the same time. If so desired, a single motion can be made to vote on Articles 20-24 together and discussed individually.

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board, 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).

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to fix a rate of interest on taxes delinquent October 1, 2026, and March 2, 2027. (*Select Board recommends State authorized rate of 7%.*)

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to 36 M.R.S. § 506-A, to set an interest rate for overpaid or abated taxes. (*Select Board recommends State authorized rate of 7%.*)

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to expend Overlay or Undesignated Fund Balance monies, to pay tax abatements and applicable interest granted during the fiscal year.

Article 24. 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.

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to enter into an Alewife Harvesting Program, with or without the Town of Lincolnville, for the 2026-2027 season, and close the Ducktrap River and all its tributaries to any taking of alewives or blueback herring.

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to make final determinations, after notice and hearing, regarding the winter closing of roads in accordance with 23 M.R.S.A. § 2953(3) and final determinations, after notice and hearing, to annul, alter or modify such orders in accordance with 23 M.R.S.A. § 2953(4); such final determinations shall not require a vote by the legislative body of the Town.

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to accept the following grants and revenue from the federal government, State of Maine, and their agencies and subdivisions, and allow the Select Board to use them as they deem necessary. *All dollar amounts are estimates.*

Business Equipment Tax Exemption (BETE)	\$Unknown
Civil Emergency Funds	\$Unknown
Community Development Block Grants	\$Unknown
Community Resilience Grants	\$Unknown
Education Funds/Grants	\$Unknown
General Assistance	\$Unknown
Homestead Exemption	\$Unknown
Local Road Assistance	\$43,352.00
Online Burn Permit	\$Unknown

Snowmobile Registrations	\$178.74
Solar Reimbursement	\$321.00
State Revenue Sharing	\$181,531.36
Tree Growth	\$Unknown
U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development	\$Unknown
Veterans	\$708.00
All Other Funds Available	\$Unknown

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 \$178.74 from snowmobile registrations, to be used to maintain snowmobile trails in Northport.

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

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of Town owned assets with a value of \$5,000.00 or less under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

School Budget Articles to Appropriate Monies for The Fiscal Year 2026-2027

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

ARTICLE 31: Shall the Northport School Committee be authorized to negotiate and enter into a tuition contract to educate Northport special education students in grades 9-12 at Belfast Area High School and Waldo County Technical Center?

While Articles 32-41 must be written as separate articles, the moderator can accept a motion to consider multiple articles at the same time. If so desired, a single motion can be made to vote on Articles 32-41 together.

ARTICLE 32. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Regular Instruction. School Committee Recommends \$2,065,013.

ARTICLE 33. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Special Education. School Committee Recommends \$643,007.

ARTICLE 34. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Other Instruction. School Committee Recommends \$57,677.

ARTICLE 35. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Student and Staff Support. School Committee Recommends \$354,514.

ARTICLE 36. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for System Administration. School Committee Recommends \$197,465.

ARTICLE 37. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for School Administration. School Committee Recommends \$258,684.

ARTICLE 38. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Transportation and Buses. School Committee Recommends \$215,000.

ARTICLE 39. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Facilities Maintenance. School Committee Recommends \$314,000.

ARTICLE 40. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments. School Committee Recommends \$198,327.

ARTICLE 41. To see what sum the Northport School Department will be authorized to expend for Food Service Transfers. School Committee Recommends \$78,934.

PLEASE NOTE: *Actions taken pursuant to the following articles (42-45) must be taken by a recorded vote. Only Article 43 requires a Written Vote)*

ARTICLE 42. To see what sum the Town of Northport will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from Pre-K to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act (**School Committee Recommends \$2,474,455.99**) and to see what sum the municipality will raise as the municipality's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Pre-K 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 \$2,137,156.88.**

“Explanation: The school administrative unit’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Pre-K 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.”

Yes _____ No _____

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 Pre-K to grade 12. **School Committee Recommends \$198,327.**

“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 that are not approved for state subsidy. The bonding of this long-term debt was previously approved by the voters.”(Note: Previous debt to MSAD 34 (RSU 71) has been satisfied and retired.)

Yes _____ No _____

PLEASE NOTE: *Article 44 requires a written vote*

ARTICLE 44. Shall the Town of Northport raise and appropriate **\$1,209,318** in additional local funds, which exceeds the State’s Essential Programs and Services allocation model by **\$1,209,318** as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Committee?

The School Committee recommends **\$1,209,318** for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State’s Essential Programs and Services funding model by **\$1,209,318.**

“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 Pre-K 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.”

Yes _____ No _____

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, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 from the Town of Northport’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from Pre-K 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 \$4,382,621.**

Yes _____ No _____

Existing School Reserve Accounts: Transfer and Expend

Reserve Account	Current Balance	Transfer Amount	Expend Not to Exceed
Regular Education	\$110,000.	\$0.	\$110,000.
Special Education	\$160,000.	\$0.	\$160,000.
Fuel Cost Stabilization	\$57,000.	\$0.	\$57,000.
Food Service	\$50,000.	\$0.	\$50,000.
Capital Maintenance	\$110,000.	\$0.	\$110,000.
Transportation	\$7,500.	\$0. *	\$7,500.
Technology	\$15,000.	\$0. *	\$15,000.

***These amounts are included in the general budget and will not be raised separately from unexpended balances.**

ARTICLE 46. Shall the School Committee be authorized to transfer up to **the amounts state in the above table** from unexpended balances to the **Respective Reserve Accounts** and to expend said Reserves for the purpose that such Reserves were created, in an amount not to exceed **the amount stated in the above table** for the 2026-2027 school year?

The moderator can accept a motion to consider multiple articles at the same time. If so desired, a single motion can be made to vote on Articles 47 – 48 together.

ARTICLE 47. Shall the School Committee be authorized to expend up to the amounts not to exceed the current balance as stated above for **Regular Education, Special Education, Fuel Cost Stabilization, Food Service and Capital Maintenance, Transportation and Technology Reserve Accounts** for the purpose that such Reserves were created, for the 2026-2027 school year?

ARTICLE 48. 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.

ARTICLE 49. Shall the School Committee be authorized to transfer an excess of 5% between cost centers, not to exceed the total spending allocation for the 2026-2027 school year, to balance accounts.

The polls will be open for voting Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at the Town Office on Articles 1 and 2 from 8:00a.m. - 8:00p.m., at which time the meeting will be adjourned: the adjourned meeting to be reopened at the Edna Drinkwater School on Monday, June 15, 2026, at 6:30p.m., then and there to act upon Article 3 and the remaining Articles in the Warrant.

IF YOU ARE NOT A REGISTERED VOTER IN NORTHPORT, YOU MAY NOT VOTE AT THE TOWN MEETING.

The Registrar of Voters will be available at the polls at the Town Office from 8:00a.m. - 8:00p.m. Tuesday, June 9, 2026, and at the Annual Town Meeting from 6:00p.m. - 6:30p.m. at the Edna Drinkwater School on Monday, June 15, 2026.

Given under our hands in Northport, Maine on April 27, 2026

Molly Schauffler

Molly Schauffler, Chair

A true copy attest:

Jeanine Tucker

Jeanine Tucker, Vice Chair

Amy Eldridge

Amy Eldridge, Town Clerk