

TOWN MEETING WARRANT FOR THE 2024 YEAR

Tuesday, March 05, 2024

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

To Andrew Blanchard, a resident of the Town of Cushing in the County of Knox:
Greetings. In the name of the State of Maine, you are required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Cushing, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to assemble at the Cushing Community Center in said Town on Tuesday, the 5th day of March 2024 A.D. at 8 o'clock in the morning then and there to act on Articles 1 through 3 by secret ballot. The polling hours therefore to be from 8:00 A.M. until 8:00 P.M. And, to reconvene on March 12th A.D. at 6:00 o'clock in the evening, then and there to act on Article 4 thru all of said Articles as set out below.

Art. 1. To elect a Moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

Art.2. To elect by secret ballot, Select Board Seat #2 & 5, Assessor Seat #2, RSU#13 Director, and Budget Committee Member Seat #2.

Art. 3. Shall the Town authorize the Selectboard to place the Town-owned Old Meeting/Old Food Pantry property at 21 Town House Road (Map 015 Lot 002) for sale by a method and at a price set in its discretion, to enter any contract for the sale it deems advisable, and to direct the net proceeds from the sale to the Town Buildings and Maintenance Account.

Art. 4. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Town Officers' salaries.

Select Board (Chair)	5,961.00
Select Board	2,775.00
Select Board	2,775.00
Select Board	2,775.00
Select Board	2,775.00
Assessor (Chair)	1,981.00
Assessor	1084.00
Assessor	1084.00
Planning Board (Chair)	2,345.00
Planning Board	1,174.00
Planning Board	1,174.00
Planning Board	1,174.00
Planning Board	1,174.00
Harbormaster	2,685.00
Director, Emergency Management	1,265.00
General Assistance Admin.	1,265.00
Code Enforcement Officer	22,000.00
Fire Chief	4,560.00
Deputy Fire Chief	716.00
Rescue Squad Director	4,680.00
Assistant Rescue Squad Director	2,600.00
Q.A.Q.I. Officer	1,843.00
Rescue Squad Lieutenant	1,560.00
Medical Director	3,120.00

Health Officer	614.00
Addressing Officer	614.00
Animal Control Officer	4,026.00
Recreation Director	<u>3,585.00</u>
	83,384.00
2023 Unexpended	<u>- 8,439.33</u>
	\$ 74,944.67

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$96,000.00 for the Administrative Wages Account (This includes Town Clerk, Tax Collector, and Deputy Clerk/Tax Collector wages).

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$17,000.00 for payroll taxes.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$14,000.00 for the Incidentals Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$9,000.00 for the Computer Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$44,000.00 for the Insurance Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000.00 for the Furniture and Fixtures Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise \$9,000.00 for the Cushing Community Center Capital Improvement Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$ 20,000.00 for the Cushing Community Center Operations Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$97,750.00 for the Cushing Fire Department Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$18,000.00 for the Fire Station Operations Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000.00 for the Planning Board Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$47,500.00, for the Assessor's Account, which will include the Assessor's Agent salary.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 for the Professional Services Account (This includes Attorney and Auditor Fees).

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,300.00 for the Septic Tank Waste Disposal Contract.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$62,913.00 for the County Dispatching Service.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000.00 for the Recreation Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000.00 for the Cushing Recreation Field.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,500.00 for the Animal Welfare Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000.00 for the General Assistance Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,000.00 to support the Georges River Interlocal Clam Management Agreement.

Select Board Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,000.00 for the Town Library Assistance Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 26. To see what sum of money, if any, the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Social Services:

American Red Cross	\$2,500.00
Coastal Opportunities	200.00
Friendship-Cushing Food Pantry	1,000.00
New Hope for Women	792.00
Penquis	7,796.00
Spectrum Generations	1,256.00
Trekkers	<u>1,000.00</u>
	\$14,544.00
2023 Unexpended Balance	<u>- 76.81</u>
	\$14,467.19

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,488.00 for dues to the Maine Municipal Association.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000.00 for the Pleasant View Cemetery Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$4,000.00 for the Ancient Cemetery Maintenance Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$4,500.00 for the Norton Cemetery Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 31. To see if the Town will vote to take \$8,718.00 from Excise for the Town Road Maintenance Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 32. To see if the Town will vote to take \$180,000.00 from Excise Tax for the Winter Maintenance Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 33. To see if the Town will vote to take \$100,000.00 from Excise Tax for the Waldoboro Transfer Station Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 34. To see if the Town will vote to take \$15,000.00 from Excise Tax for the Town Buildings Repair and Maintenance Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 35. To see if the Town will vote to take \$2,500.00 from Excise Tax for the Ambulance Maintenance Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 36. To see if the Town will vote to take \$25,000.00 from Excise Tax for the Ambulance Replacement Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 37. To see if the Town will vote to take \$25,000.00 from Excise Tax for the Fire Truck Replacement Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 38. To see if the Town will vote to take \$15,000.00 from Boat Excise Tax for the Public Water Access Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 39. To see if the Town will vote to take \$2,000.00 from the Boat Excise Tax for the Harbor Master Account.

Select Board and Budget Committee Recommends

Art. 40. Shall an ordinance entitled 'Exemption of Eligible Active-Duty Military Personnel from Motor Vehicle Excise Tax' be enacted? (attached is the complete wording of the proposed ordinance).

Art. 41. To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 506 to authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept the payment of taxes not yet assessed.

Art. 42. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 505(4) to charge interest at a rate of 6 % per year on taxes not paid in accordance with the tax bill due date.

Art. 43. To see if the Town will vote pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. §506-A to set the interest rate to be paid by the Town on abated taxes at 2 % per year.

Art. 44. To see if the Town will vote to take money from Undesignated Funds to pay for abated taxes.

Art. 45. To see if the Town will authorize the municipal officers to dispose of tax acquired property by sealed bid, except that the municipal officers shall first use the sale process in 36 M.R.S. §943-C if they choose to sell property to anyone other than the former owner. For sales to someone other than the former owner, excess sale proceeds, as defined in 36 M.R.S. §, shall be returned to the former owner.

Art. 46. To see if the Town will vote to accept the various State Reimbursements, such as Municipal Revenue Sharing Funds, Tree Growth, Veteran's Tax Exemption, Urban Rural Initiative (road fund), Fuel Tax Refund, Snowmobile Refund, General Assistance, Small Community Grant Program, and any and all kinds of property relief as provided by the State Legislature to the Town in the fiscal year 2024.

Art. 47. To see if the Town will vote to accept and appropriate, for the purposes for which they are received, the proceeds of all grants made to the Town during the Town's fiscal year by the federal or state government, their agencies and authorities; and to see if the Town will vote that any necessary matching funds be appropriated by Town Meeting and that any substantive conditions other than a standard grant condition regarding spending only for the purpose for which the grant is made, be approved by Town Meeting.

Art. 48. To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Cushing 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 the property tax levy limit.

Art. 49. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to dispose of town-owned personal property under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

Art. 50. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to accept, on behalf of the Town, gifts, donations, trust funds, and contributions in the form of money, personal services, and materials for the benefit of the Town, its government including legal departments and public facilities thereof, for the purpose of aiding and enhancing the delivery of public services. Said gifts to be without conditions and not require the voters to raise additional maintenance money.

Art. 51. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to borrow money in anticipation of tax receipts and to borrow or transfer funds as they deem advisable to meet unanticipated year 2025 budget accounts from January 1, 2025, until the 2025 annual meeting.

Municipal Officers, Town of Cushing

Daniel Staples

Cheryl Stackpole

Craig Currie

Tracey Bally

Michael James

Date: February 26, 2024