

WARRANT FOR TOWN MEETING

To William Graham, Constable of the Town of Sweden, County of Oxford, 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 Sweden in said county, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Town Meeting House, **on Saturday, the 23rd day of March AD 2024, at nine o'clock in the morning,** then and there to act on the following articles, to wit:

Article 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Article 2. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to borrow monies in anticipation of taxes as may be required to operate the services of the Town.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

Article 3. To elect all Town Officers:

- a. One (1) Member of the Select Board, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor for a period of 3 years;
 - b. One (1) Planning Board member for a period of 5 years;
 - c. Two (2) Planning Board alternates each for a period of 1 year;
 - d. One (1) Board of Appeals member for a period of 5 years;
 - e. Two (2) Board of Appeals members for a period of 2 years;
 - f. Two (2) Board of Appeals alternates for a period of 1 year;
- and any other necessary officers.

Article 4. To see if the town will increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Sweden by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the following articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit.

Select Board recommends (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (4-0)

Article 5a. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **1st, 2nd and 3rd Select Board members.**

<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
\$9,790.00	\$9,790.00

Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$10,107.00
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Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)	\$10,107.00
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Article 5b. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Town Clerk.**

<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
\$14,196.00	\$15,048.00

Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$ 17,919.00.
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Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)	\$ 17,919.00.
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Article 5c. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Town Treasurer.**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
	\$7,644.00	\$8,103.00
Select Board recommends raise (3-0)		\$ 8,363.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)		\$ 8,363.00

Article 5d. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Town Tax Collector.**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
	\$14,196.00	\$15,048.00
Select Board recommends raise (3-0)		\$17,919.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)		\$17,919.00

Article 5e. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Administrative Assistant to the Select Board at an average of 24 hours per week for 52 weeks per year .**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
	\$26,208.00	\$27,780.00
Select Board recommends raise (3-0)		\$28,670.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)		\$28,670.00

Article 5f. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Code Enforcement Officer.**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
	\$12,600.00	\$17,000.00
Select Board recommends raise (3-0)		\$17,544.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)		\$17,544.00

Article 5g. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Fire Chief.**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
	\$3000.00	\$3,180.00
Select Board recommends raise (3-0)		\$ 3,282.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-1)		\$ 3,282.00

Article 5h. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Road Commissioner.**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
	\$3,000.00	\$3,180.00
Select Board recommends raise (3-0)		\$ 3,282.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)		\$ 3,282.00

Article 5i. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Cemetery Sexton.**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
	\$352.00	\$373.00
Select Board recommends raise (3-0)		\$ 385.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)		\$ 385.00

Article 5j. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Emergency Management Director.**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
	\$750.00	\$1,255.00
Select Board recommends raise (3-0)		\$ 1,500.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-1)		\$ 1,500.00

Article 5k. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **E-911 Addressing Officer.**

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
	\$265.00	\$281.00
Select Board recommends raise (3-0)		\$ 290.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)		\$ 290.00

Article 6. To see if the Town will take from the unassigned fund balance up to \$1,200.00 for payment of interest on tax anticipation borrowing for the ensuing year.

Select Board recommends take from unassigned fund balance (3-0) up to	\$1,200.00
Budget Committee recommends take from unassigned fund balance (4-0) up to	\$1,200.00

Article 7. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for **Town Charges** for the ensuing year.

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
	\$80,742	\$103,647
Select Board recommends raise (3-0)		\$102,215.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)		\$102,215.00

Article 8. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for support of the Sweden Planning Board.

Planning Board requested:	\$19,500.00
Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$19,500.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)	\$19,500.00

Article 9. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the **maintenance of roads and roadsides** for the ensuing year.

Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$75,000.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-1 abstain)	\$75,000.00
Road Advisory Committee recommends raise (4-0)	\$75,00.00
Road Advisory Committee recommends take from the unassigned fund balance (4-0) up to \$75,000.00	

Article 9a. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or take from the unassigned fund balance for the **Capital Improvement Reserve Account for Roads**, pursuant to 30-A M.R.S Section 5801 and allow the balance to carry forward.

Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$200,000.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-1)	\$200,000.00

Road Advisory Committee recommends raise (4-0)	\$200,000.00
Road Advisory Committee recommends take from the unassigned fund balance (4-0)	\$50,000.00

Article 10. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the purpose of snow removal and sanding for the ensuing year.

Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$285,000.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-1)	\$285,000.00
Road Advisory Committee recommends (3-0)	\$315,000.00

Article 11. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate to pay for Lovell Transfer Station contract and to pay for any additional usage charges from the unassigned fund balance monies.

Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$70,799.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)	\$70,799.00

Article 12. To see what sum the Town will authorize the Select Board to draw upon the unassigned fund balance account for the care of the poor for the ensuing year.

Select Board recommends (3-0)	up to \$1,250.00.
Budget Committee recommends (4-0)	up to \$1,250.00.

Article 13. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for grounds maintenance, upkeep, and repairs for town buildings.

Select Board recommends (3-0)	\$6,000.00
Budget Committee recommends (4-0)	\$6,000.00

Article 14. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for support of the Sweden Fire Department.

SVFD requested	\$72,725.00
Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$72,725.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)	\$72,725.00

Article 15. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the support of Sweden Conservation Commission.

Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$225.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)	\$225.00

Article 16. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for support of the ambulance service for the ensuing year.

Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$2,040.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)	\$2,040.00

Article 17. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the support of **Harvest Hills Animal Shelter.**

Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$406.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)	\$406.00

Article 18. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for the support of **Seniors Plus.**

Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$500.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)	\$500.00

Article 19. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$2,500.00 for support of the **Sweden Historical Society.**

Select Board recommends (3-0)	\$2,500.00
Budget Committee recommends (4-0)	\$2,500.00

Article 20. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the support of **Charlotte E. Hobbs Memorial Library.**

Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$3,000.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)	\$3,000.00

Article 21. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the support of the **Lovell Recreation Program.**

Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$2,500.00
Budget Committee recommend raise (4-0)	\$2,500.00

Article 22. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the support of **Lakes Environmental Association (LEA).**

Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$400.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)	\$400.00

Article 23. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the support of **Sweden Food Pantry**

Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$1,000.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)	\$1,000.00

Article 24. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the support of **The Life Flight Foundation.**

Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$406.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)	\$406.00

Article 25. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the support of **Cancer Resource Center**

Select Board recommends raise (3-0)	\$50.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0)	\$50.00

Article 26. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the purpose of **Cemetery maintenance** that is the responsibility of the Town.

Select Board recommends raise (3-0) \$ 5,000.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0) \$ 5,000.00

Article 27. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate and/or take from the unassigned fund balance for the purpose of **legal counsel**.

Select Board recommends raise (3-0) \$ 2,500.00

Select Board recommends take from the unassigned fund balance if needed (3-0)
up to \$ 12,500.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (4-0) \$ 2,500.00

Budget Committee recommends take from the unassigned fund balance if needed (4-0)
up to \$12,500.00

Article 28. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate and/or take from the unassigned fund balance for the **Contingency Fund**.

Select Board recommends take from the unassigned fund balance (3-0) \$15,000.00

Budget Committee recommends take from the unassigned fund balance (4-0) \$15,000.00

Article 29: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate and/or take from the unassigned fund balance for the purpose of **future Town revaluation** and allow the balance to carry over each year.

Select Board recommends raise \$10,000 and take from the unassigned fund balance \$10,000 and allow the balance to carry forward each year. (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends raise \$10,000 and take from the unassigned fund balance \$10,000 and allow the balance to carry forward each year. (4-0)

Article 30. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen/Assessors to use not more than \$85,000.00 of the 2024 anticipated Excise monies collected in 2024 towards the amount appropriated in articles 5a through 29.

Select Board recommends (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (4-0)

Article 31. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen/Assessors to use not more than \$40,000.00 of the 2024 anticipated Tree Growth Refund monies collected in 2024 towards the amount appropriated in articles 5a through 29.

Select Board recommends (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (4-0)

Article 32. To see if the voters will authorize the raising of the balance so appropriated, not covered in article 30 and 31 through taxation.

Select Board recommends (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (4-0)

Article 33. To see if the Town will accept the highest interest rate set by the Office of the State Treasurer, State of Maine for delinquent taxes committed in the current year. (Rate cannot be greater than the State rate of 8.5% for 2024).

Select Board recommends (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (4-0)

Article 34. To see if the Town will determine the date from and after which interest shall accrue on delinquent taxes committed for the current year.

Select Board recommends (3-0)

60 days after the date of commitment.

Budget Committee recommends (4-0)

60 days after the date of commitment.

Article 35. To see if the Town will set the interest rate paid on abated taxes to 4 percentage points less than the rate used in article 33 above by the State Treasurer, State of Maine.

Select Board recommends (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (4-0)

Article 36. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to **take such sums from overlay as may be necessary for the purpose of funding tax abatements.**

Select Board recommends (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (4-0)

Article 37. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board on behalf of the Town **to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for the non-payment of taxes thereon;** or by other judicial process; said real estate to be advertised in two separate issues of local paper within 30 days of sale. To be sold either at public auction or as the result of sealed bids called for and received by the Selectmen; provided, however, that the selectmen be authorized to sell at private sale property so acquired to the owner on record of any such property; all conveyances there-under to be by release deed. Except that the Municipal Officers shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. § 943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s).

Select Board recommends (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (4-0)

Article 38. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to apply for and **accept grants and gifts on behalf of the Town,** and to expend the proceeds thereof for the purposes for which they are received, provided that the terms of the grants do not require the Town to expend other funds which have not been appropriated by the Town.

Select Board recommends (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (4-0)

Article 39. To see if the Town will authorize the municipal officers to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount in each budget category of the 2024 annual budget **during the period of January 1, 2025, to the March Annual Town Meeting in 2025.** The

exception is winter road maintenance. The municipal officers may spend more than 3/12ths of the 2024 annual budget amount for winter road maintenance to facilitate proper administration of the winter road maintenance contract. In no case shall the total expenditures for the year exceed the annual budget as approved by vote of the municipal legislative body (town meeting vote).

Select Board recommends (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (4-0)

Article 40: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital reserve account for a new fire station and transfer all funds (approximately \$188,000) from the State Aid Road Capital Account to the Capital reserve account for the new fire station.

Select Board recommends (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-1)

Road Advisory Committee recommends (0-3)

Article 41. To see if the Town will authorize or direct the Select Board to use available **LRAP funds** in accordance with State Law if needed.

Select Board recommends (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (4-0)

Road Advisory Committee recommends (3-0)

Article 42. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to accept and spend **FEMA** money where appropriate.

Select Board recommends (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (4-0)

Article 43. Shall an ordinance entitled "Town of Sweden, Maine Zoning and Land Use Ordinance Eighth Revision 2024" be enacted?

Select Board recommends (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (4-0)

Given under our hands this

February 27, 2024

Select Board


Christopher Chadbourne

of


Daniel McQueen

Sweden


Kerry Welton