

**TOWN OF OXFORD
SECRET BALLOT ELECTION/REFERENDUM
AND
TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

**Saturday, June 08, 2019
and
Tuesday, June 11, 2019**

Town Meeting June 08, 2019 10:00 a.m.
Oxford Elementary School

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Secret Ballot Election/Referendum June 11, 2019 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Oxford Public Safety Building, 701 Main St., Oxford Maine.

June 8th, 2019 – Town Meeting Minutes

Dedication to John Crumpton
Presentation by Kathleen Jackson from the Maine State Legislature.

CALL TO ORDER at 10:00 AM –Town Clerk Elizabeth Olsen presided. Floyd Thayer, Scott Hunter, Caldwell Jackson, Ed Knightly, Samantha Hewey, Butch Asselin, and Department Heads were present.

6 Non Residents and 80 Residents attended.

Article 1: To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Motion for Ron Kugell for Moderator and seconded.

Motion for Nominations to Cease and Seconded. Clearly passed.

Ballots clearly indicated Ron Kugell voted in for Moderator.

Ron Kugell was sworn in and Gary Smith was appointed as Deputy Moderator and sworn in.

Motion to allow all Municipal Employees to speak during the meeting. Seconded. Clearly Passed.

Article 2: To elect all Municipal Officers, Oxford Water District Trustees, and SAD #17 Directors.

Article 3: Shall the Oxford Mass Gathering Ordinance be amended as written.

Motion to accept as amended and seconded. Clearly Passed.

Article 4: Shall the Oxford Subdivision Ordinance be amended as written repealing the subdivision provisions that are currently in the Zoning Ordinance and adopting the amended Oxford Zoning Ordinance as written .

Motion to accept as amended and seconded. Clearly Passed.

Article 5: Shall the Oxford Sewer Ordinance be adopted as written.

Motion to accept as written and seconded. Clearly Passed.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate Excise Tax, Tree Growth Reimbursement, Veteran Exempt Reimbursement, Boat Excise Tax, Building Permit Fees, State Road Assistance, Town Agent Fees, Town Clerk Fees, Plumbing Permit Fees, Miscellaneous Revenue, Revenue Sharing, School Block Grant, Weapon Permit Fees, and Swimming Lesson Fees towards the reduction of monies to be raised by taxation in the commitment.

Motion to appropriate and seconded. Clearly passed.

- Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$721,568.91 for the Administration Account.
2018: \$720,765.04
Budget Committee Recommends: \$721,568.91
Selectmen Recommend: \$721,568.91
Motion to raise and appropriate \$721,568.91 and seconded. Clearly passed.
- Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$855,706.48 for the Police Department Account.
2018: \$822,766.95
Budget Committee Recommends: \$855,706.48
Selectmen Recommend: \$855,706.48
Motion to raise and appropriate \$855,706.48 and seconded. Clearly passed.
- Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$680,144.54 for the Highway Department Account.
2018: \$645,284.57
Budget Committee Recommends: \$680,144.54
Selectmen Recommend: \$680,144.54
Motion to raise and appropriate \$680,144.54 and seconded. Clearly passed.
- Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$373,698.38 for the Fire Department Account.
2018: \$379,127.30
Budget Committee Recommends: \$373,698.38
Selectmen Recommend: \$373,698.38
Motion to raise and appropriate \$373,698.38 and seconded. Clearly passed.
- Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$312,204.00 for the Rescue Department Account.
2018: \$310,252.00
Budget Committee Recommends: \$312,204.00
Selectmen Recommend: \$312,204.00
Motion to raise and appropriate \$312,204.00 and seconded. Clearly passed.
- Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$119,441.00 for the Recreation Account.
2018: \$89,758.00
Budget Committee Recommends: \$101,866.00 *Budget for part time Recreation Director.*
Selectmen Recommend: \$119,441.00
Motion to raise and appropriate \$119,441.00 and seconded.
Amendment to the motion to raise and appropriate \$101,866.00 and seconded.
Many residents stood and spoke in favor of a full time Recreation Director.
The amendment was clearly defeated.
The original motion clearly passed.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 for the Fire/Traffic Protection Account.

2018: \$75,000

Budget Committee Recommends: \$75,000

Selectmen Recommend: \$75,000

Motion to raise and appropriate \$75,000 and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$291,509.45 for the Transfer Station Account.

2018: \$280,535.81

Budget Committee Recommends: \$290,396 *Omitted working paid Monday holidays.*

Selectmen Recommend: \$288,169 *Budget committee voted prior to health insurance correction.*

Motion to raise and appropriate \$291,509.45 and seconded.

Amendment to the motion to raise and appropriate \$288,169 and seconded.

Amendment clearly passed.

Motion to vote on article 15-26 as a block. Seconded. Vote 34 -23 – not 2/3 majority. Defeated.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,405.23 for the Recycling Operation Account.

2018: \$72,679.91

Budget Committee Recommends: \$73,625.33 *Omitted working paid Monday holidays.*

Selectmen Recommend: \$73,625.33

Motion to raise and appropriate \$75,405.23 and seconded.

Amendment to the motion to raise and appropriate \$73,625.33 and seconded.

Amendment clearly passed.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$69,000 for the Insurance Account.

2018: \$56,153

Budget Committee Recommends: \$69,000

Selectmen Recommend: \$69,000

Motion to raise and appropriate \$69,000 and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,661.20 for the General Assistance Account.

2018: \$14,562

Budget Committee Recommends: \$17,661.20

Selectmen Recommend: \$17,661.20

Motion to raise and appropriate \$17,661.20 and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,038,798.67 for the Long Term Debt, TIF Debt, Interest, Filing Costs Accounts.

2018: \$1,055,753.98

Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,038,798.67

Selectmen Recommend: \$1,038,798.67

Principal – Road & PSB Bond – \$75,000

Interest \$10,475

TIF Debt:

Long Term Debt Principal-Omnibus \$533,274.98

Long Term Debt Interest \$420,048.69

Motion to raise and appropriate \$1,038,798.67 and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,600.00 for the Freeland Holmes Library Account.

2018: \$31,900.00

Budget Committee Recommends: \$32,600.00

Selectmen Recommend: \$32,600.00

Motion to raise and appropriate \$32,600.00 and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,900 for the Cemeteries Account.

2018: \$17,400.00

Budget Committee Recommends: \$17,900.00

Selectmen Recommend: \$17,900.00

Motion to raise and appropriate \$17,900 and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$54,850 for the Public Safety Building Account.

2018: \$53,040

Budget Committee Recommends: \$54,850

Selectmen Recommend: \$54,850

Motion to raise and appropriate \$54,850 and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$667,711.00 for the Capital Improvements Project Account.

2018: \$594,211.00

Budget Committee Recommends: \$667,711.00

Selectmen Recommend: \$667,711.00

Motion to raise and appropriate \$667,711.00 and seconded. Clearly passed.

Jim Skinner asked to be voted in to speak as a non-resident tax payer.

Motion to allow and seconded. Clearly Passed.

Several Citizens and Jim Skinner stood in favor of only replacing the stop logs on Thompson Lake Dam using composite logs. It was also recommended that the west gate become the gate with the automatic lift gate and that the other gates lift off to allow water to flow over the gates.

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2100 for the support of the Maine Unemployment Tax Fund.

2018: \$2100

Budget Committee Recommends: \$2100

Selectmen Recommend: \$2100
Motion to raise and appropriate \$2100 and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,500 for the support of the Animal Control Department Account.
2018: \$10,500
Budget Committee Recommends: \$10,500
Selectmen Recommend: \$10,500
Motion to raise and appropriate \$10,500 and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$301,200.00 for the Waste Water Treatment Account.
2018: \$282,448.00
Budget Committee Recommends: \$301,200.00
Selectmen Recommend: \$298,959.00 *Budget committee voted prior to health insurance correction.*
Motion to raise and appropriate \$301,200.00 and seconded.
Amendment to the motion to raise and appropriate \$298,959.00 and seconded.
Amendment clearly passed.

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$58,700 for the North End Sewer Account.
2018: \$57,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$58,700
Selectmen Recommend: \$58,700
Motion to raise and appropriate \$58,700 and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate 100% of the snowmobile refund check for the purpose of maintaining snowmobile trails by the Rock-O-Dundee Snowmobile Club, such maintenance to be performed only with the landowners' permission and only on trails that are open for public use.
Motioned as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to carry forward to the following year any unexpended balances they deem advisable and lapse to fund balance any overdrafts in accordance with the Town's fund balance policy.
Motioned as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 29: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by nonpayment of taxes thereon, on such terms deemed advisable, and to execute deeds for such property and the proposed action of the Selectmen shall be advertised for two (2) weeks, with the exception that the Selectmen shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S.A. § 943-C for qualifying homestead properties if not sold back to the original owner.
Motioned as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of town-owned personal property with a value of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or less under such

terms and conditions as they deem advisable, or if the value exceeds five thousand dollars (\$5,000), then by a public bid process.

Motioned as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept gifts of money or personal property to the Town and to appropriate and expend such money for such public purposes as the Board deems to be in the interest of the Town.

Motioned as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 32: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept conditional gifts of money or personal property to the Town and to appropriate and expend the funds for the purposes for which the gift was made and in accordance with any conditions imposed by the donor and to accept conditional gifts of personal property to the Town and to use the property in the manner specified by the donor.

Motioned as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 33: 1) To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to collect taxes twice a year, and to collect prepayment of taxes for the following year. The first bill to be one half of the assessed taxes billed October 1, 2019 and due October 25, 2019. The second half of assessed taxes billed April 1, 2020 and due April 25, 2020; interest to be charged on each of the unpaid balances at 9% annually after October 25, 2019 and April 25, 2020 respectively, and

2) To see if the Town will permit the Tax Collector or her designee to waive unintentional tax interest payment shortages in an amount not to exceed \$5.00, and

3) To see if the Town will vote to authorize the tax collector to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed and to pay no interest on those prepayments in accordance with Title 36 M.R.S.A. § 506.

Motioned as written and seconded.

Amended 9% to 6% and seconded.

Discussion stating that the higher interest rate encouraged payment of taxes timely which is needed to keep the operating reserve funded.

Amendment clearly failed.

Original motion clearly passed.

Motion to dispense with the reading of article 34. Seconded and clearly passed.

Article 34: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen or the Town Manager, acting in concurrence with said Selectmen, to accept and expend, on behalf of the Town, Federal and/or State funds which may be received, from time to time, in the form of grants or for any other purpose, during the period 07/01/19 to 06/30/20, including, but not limited to Municipal Revenue Sharing, Local Road Assistance, State Aid to Education, Public Library, State Aid per capita, Civil Emergency Funds, Snowmobiling Registration money, Tree Growth Reimbursement money, General Assistance Reimbursement, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), Economic Development Administration (EDA) grants, Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) grants, U.S. Fire Administration grants, Police grants, and to act on anything relative thereto.

Motioned as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 35: To see if the Town will vote to establish the rate of interest for those who have received an abatement or have overpaid their taxes for the year 2020 at 3%.

Motioned as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 36: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to transfer any balance of less than \$1,000 from outdated Reserve Accounts to the General Fund.

Motioned as written and seconded. Clearly passed.

Article 37: To see if the Town will vote to exceed the maximum property tax levy limit (LD1) established by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved results in a tax commitment in excess of the property tax levy otherwise allowable, such that the increased maximum property tax levy hereby established will equal the amount committed, or see what action the Town will take.

Note: It is not projected that the town's budget will exceed tax levy limits established by State law, but as a preventive housekeeping action it is recommended the Town vote to approve.

Motion to allow the town to exceed the maximum property tax levy limit.

Written ballot results – 28 Yes, 3 No. Clearly passed.

Motion to recess until Tuesday June 11, 2019 at 8:00am at the Oxford Public Safety Building. Seconded and clearly passed.

*Respectfully submitted
Elizabeth Olsen
Town Clerk*