

**Town of Shirley**  
Annual Town Meeting Warrant  
Monday June 19th, 2023

County of Piscataquis, s.s.

To: Julie Fortin; a resident of the Town of Shirley, in said country.

Greetings:

In the name of the State of Maine, you hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town of Shirley, qualified to vote in the town affairs, to assemble at the Town Hall on Monday, of June 19th in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three, at six o'clock pm to act on the following articles, to wit:

**ARTICLE 1.** To elect a Moderator to preside at said meeting: **John Contreni**

**ARTICLE 2.** To elect the necessary officers:

- A. One Selectman (3-year term) **Kirk Hamilton**
- B. Tax Collector: **Geneva Beckwith**
- C. Treasurer: **Linda Hamilton**
- D. Two School Board Members: (3-year term) **Mindy Hanson, Rieland Hamilton**
- E. Sexton: **Greg Young**
- F. Assessors: **Norman Beckwith, David Thorp, Kirk Hamilton**
- G. Overseers of the Poor: **Norman Beckwith, David Thorp, Kirk Hamilton**
- H. Road Commissioner: **Norman Beckwith, David Thorp, Kirk Hamilton**

ARTICLE 3      To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Regular Instruction.

<b>SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS</b>	<b>\$569,000.00</b>
<b>SELECTMEN RECOMMEND</b>	<b>\$</b>

ARTICLE 4      To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Special Education.

<b>SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS</b>	<b>\$7,500.00</b>
<b>SELECTMEN RECOMMEND</b>	<b>\$</b>

ARTICLE 5 To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Career and Technical Education.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** \$0.00  
**SELECTMEN RECOMMEND** \$

ARTICLE 6 To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Extra Curricular and Co-Curricular Education.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** \$0.00  
**SELECTMEN RECOMMEND** \$

ARTICLE 7 To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Student and Staff Support.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** \$0.00  
**SELECTMEN RECOMMEND** \$

ARTICLE 8 To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for System Administration.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** \$26,670.00  
**SELECTMEN RECOMMEND** \$

ARTICLE 9 To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for School Administration.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** \$0.00  
**SELECTMEN RECOMMEND** \$

ARTICLE 10 To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Transportation.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** \$25,894.00  
**SELECTMEN RECOMMEND** \$

ARTICLE 11 To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Facilities Maintenance.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** \$0.00  
**SELECTMEN RECOMMEND** \$

ARTICLE 12 To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** \$0.00  
**SELECTMEN RECOMMEND** \$

ARTICLE 13 To see what sum the school administrative unit will be authorized to expend for All Other Expenditures – School Lunch.

<b>SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>SELECTMEN RECOMMEND</b>	<b>\$</b>

**The following three articles must be taken by recorded vote:**

ARTICLE 14 To see what sum the Town of Shirley will raise and appropriate funding public education from Kindergarten to Grade 12 as described for the total cost of education in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act (**Recommended \$237,909.33**) 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.

<b>STATUTORY RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>\$237,909.33</b>
<b>SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS</b>	<b>\$237,909.33</b>
<b>SELECTMEN RECOMMEND</b>	<b>\$</b>

**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.*

ARTICLE 15 To see what sum the Town of Shirley will raise and appropriate in additional local funds (**Recommend \$286,061.67**), which exceeds the State’s Essential Programs and Services allocation model by **\$286,061.67** as required to fund the budget recommended by the Shirley School Committee.

The Shirley School Committee recommends **\$286,061.67** for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State’s Essential Programs and Services funding model by **\$286,061.67**. The EPS funding model is based on teacher/student ratios, this impacts small rural schools because they are required to provide the same level of educational services to a smaller population of students.

<b>SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS</b>	<b>\$286,061.67</b>
<b>SELECTMEN RECOMMEND</b>	<b>\$</b>

**Explanation:** *The additional local funds are those locally raised funds 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 Town’s budget for educational programs.*

ARTICLE 16 **SUMMARY ARTICLE:**

To see what sum the Town of Shirley will authorize the School Committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024 from 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, 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** **\$629,064.00**  
**SELECTMEN RECOMMEND** **\$**

ARTICLE 17 To see if the Town of Shirley will authorize the School Committee to expend in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024 any unanticipated state school general, federal, local, or state purpose aid that it may receive for the fiscal year.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** **Approval**  
**SELECTMEN RECOMMEND**

ARTICLE 18 The voters of the Shirley School Department have authorized the School Committee to use all or part of additional state subsidy received, if any, to decrease the local cost share expectations, as defined in Title 20-A Section 15671-A(1)(B) for local taxpayers for funding public education as approved by the School Committee.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** **Approval**  
**SELECTMEN RECOMMEND**

ARTICLE 19 Shall the voters authorize the Shirley School Board to transfer the District's unallocated balances in excess of 9% of the prior fiscal year's budget, as determined by audit, to the previously established non-lapsing contingency fund for periods of financial emergency pursuant to section 1482-B(3) of Title 20-A; and shall the District delegate authority to the School Board to expend sums in the contingency fund when the School Board determines by public vote that an emergency need exists, and to transfer sums in the contingency fund to the District's general fund for use in school operating budgets approved by District voters?

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS** **Approval**  
**SELECTMEN RECOMMEND**

**A TRUE ATTEST COPY**

---

**Town Clerk** **Date**

**ARTICLE 20** To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate for **General Government.**

1 <sup>ST</sup> Selectman Wage Expense	2,000.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Selectman Wage Expense	1,800.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> Selectman Wage Expense	1,800.00
Road Commissioner Wage Expense	300.00
Town Clerk Wage Expense	17,000.00
Treasurer Wage Expense	8,000.00
Tax Collector Wage Expense	8,000.00
Sexton Wage Expense	300.00
Librarian Wage Expense	300.00
Training Expense	8,000.00
Planning Board Wage Expense	1,000.00
Other Wage Expense	<u>1,500.00</u>
<b>Total Salaries</b>	<b>50,000.00</b>

General Assistance Expense	1,500.00
Shirley Public Library Expense	500.00
Planning Board Expense	500.00
Assessing Agent Expense	4,000.00
Administrative Expense	13,500.00
Insurance Expense	12,500.00
Appeals Board Expense	150.00
Computer Expense	5,500.00
Legal Expense	5,000.00
Honor Roll Expense	100.00
Audit Expense	6,000.00
Flags, Flowers & Memorial Expense	1,200.00
Shirley Historical Expense	750.00
Travel & Mileage Reimbursement	400.00
Electricity Expense Town Buildings	2,250.00
Office Supplies	2,000.00
Training and Workshop Dues and Fees	700.00
Heating and Fuel Expense Town Buildings	<u>4,000.00</u>
<b>General Government</b>	<b>60,550.00</b>

<b>Subtotal General Government</b>	<b>110,550.00</b>
<b>Recommended:</b>	<b>110,550.00</b>

**ARTICLE 21**

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Protection.**

Street Light Expense	3,000.00
Fire Protection Services	12,600.00
Fire Warden	<u>300.00</u>
<b>Subtotal Protection Services</b>	<b>15,900.00</b>
<b>Recommended:</b>	<b>15,900.00</b>

**ARTICLE 22**

To see what sum the town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Public Works.**

Winter Roads Expense	69,000.00
Trash Pick-up	24,600.00
Recycling Expense	5,000.00
Shirley Cemetery Expense	3,000.00
Future Roads Rebuild Expense	45,000.00
General Town Maintenance Expense	7,000.00
Closing Landfill Expense	2,445.00
Summer Road Expense	45,000.00
Building Permit Expense	300.00
Town Mowing	2,000.00
Playground Expense	500.00
Maintenance Expense Wages	7,500.00
Animal Control	<u>600.00</u>
<b>Subtotal Public Works</b>	<b>211,945.00</b>
<b>Recommended:</b>	<b>211,945.00</b>

**ARTICLE 23**

To see if the Town will vote to take \$45,000.00 from Excise Taxes to help fund the Summer Roads Expense account and reduce taxes.

<b>Recommended:</b>	<b>45,000.00</b>
---------------------	------------------

**ARTICLE 24**

To see if the Town will vote to fix a date when taxes shall be due and payable and if the Town will fix a rate of interest to be charged on taxes unpaid after said date. Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, and interest Starts Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

<b>Recommended:</b>	<b>Interest Rate of 8.00%</b>
---------------------	-------------------------------

**ARTICLE 25**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept money in anticipation of taxes.

**ARTICLE 26**

To see if the Town will vote to accept the Agent fees collected dog licenses and vital records sold and put those fees back into salaries to offset the secretary’s salary.

**ARTICLE 27**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to accept any State, federal or other government grants, or donations to spend them for the purpose for which said grants or donations were made.

**ARTICLE 28**

To see if the Town will vote to use overlay to pay any abatement that the town may have. This vote shall stand until voted again.

**ARTICLE 29**

To see if the Town will vote to accept the categories of funds listed below that are provided by the State Legislature:

Estimated Municipal Revenue Sharing:	<b>\$39,625.82</b>
Estimated Homestead Exemption Reimbursement:	<b>\$29,640.90</b>
General Assistance funds:	<b>Recommended accept.</b>
State Grants or other funds:	<b>Recommended accept.</b>

**ARTICLE 30**

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate all funds from the money received from the State of Maine for registration of snowmobiles to the Shirley Bog Trail Busters for the purpose of maintaining their snowmobile trails, to be open to the public at all times, and to authorize the Municipal Officers to enter into an agreement with the club, under such terms and conditions as the Municipal Officers may deem advisable, for that purpose. This vote will stand until voted upon again.

**ARTICLE 31**

To see if the town will raise \$2,500.00 and take \$2,000.00 from perpetual care for cemetery care.

**Selectmen Recommend: Approval**

**ARTICLE 32**

To see if the Town of Shirley will vote to carry forward any unexpended funds raised for the Historical Society and Summer Roads to put in a fund for a Historical Society reserve account and summer roads reserve account. This vote shall stand until voted again.

**ARTICLE 33**

To see if the Town of Shirley will vote to raise and appropriate \$38,550.00 to replace the Town Hall Roof and utilize the ARPA funds \$23,763.56 to defer the cost.

**ARTICLE 34**

To see if the town will approve the selectmen to access the future roads account to pay for the road work and repairing on the Upper Shirley Corner Road and the Rt 15 intersection on the Lower Shirley Corner Road.

**Selectmen Recommended: Approval**

**ARTICLE 35**

To see if the Town of Shirley will vote to take money from surplus to reduce taxes and, if so, how much.

**Recommended: \$100,000.00** **\$100,00.00**

**ARTICLE 36**

To see if the Town will vote to use the sale of tax acquired property at 35 North Road to reduce taxation.

**ARTICLE 37**

To see if the Town wishes to close the winter road maintenance of a portion of the Blanchard Road from 33 Blanchard Road to Blanchard / Shirley Town line for a period of 10 years from November 1<sup>st</sup> to May 30<sup>th</sup>.

**ARTICLE 38**

Shall the Town of Shirley keep the Shirley Public Library open?

**ARTICLE 39**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize donations for the following Non-profit Organizations:

Local Food Pantry	127.00
American Red Cross of Maine	150.00
Northern Light Ambulance	1,000.00
Community Health and Counseling Services	168.00
Eastern Area Agency on Aging	100.00
Penquis	720.00
Pine Tree Hospice	50.00
Shaw Public Library	500.00
The LifeFlight Foundation	<u>251.00</u>
<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>3,066.00</b>

**The published version of this warrant is only a draft. For the posted version check with the Town Clerk.**



**Selectmen of the Town of Shirley**

---

**Norman Beckwith**

---

**David Thorp**

---

**Kirk Hamilton**

## Return of the Warrant

County of Piscataquis s. s.

I certify that I have notified the voters of the Town of Shirley of the time and place of the Annual Town Meeting by posting an attested copy at the within warrant at the house of the Tax Collector Geneva Beckwith and the Shirley Town Office and Shirley Town Post Office a conspicuous public place within the Town of Shirley on **June 19th, 2023**, which is seven days prior to the Annual Town Meeting.

Dated at the Town of Shirley \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_