

Town of Shirley
Minutes
Annual Town Meeting Warrant
July 1,2026- June 30,2027
June 15, 2026

County of Piscataquis, s.s.

To: Marc Costantine; a resident of the Town of Shirley, in said country.

Greetings:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town of Shirley, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to assemble at the Shirley Town Hall on Monday, of June 15th in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Six, at six o'clock pm to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1. To elect a Moderator to preside at said meeting:
John Contreni was elected as Moderator.

ARTICLE 2. To elect the necessary officers:

- A. One Selectman 3-year term- **Marc Costantine elected for a 3 year term of office.**
- B. Tax Collector 1- Year term- **Brandie Costantine elected for a 1 year term of office.**
- C. Treasurer 1-Year term- **Vera Davis elected for a 1 year term of office.**
- D. One School Board Members: (3-year term) -**Mindy Hanson elected For a 3 year term on the School Board.**
- E. Sexton: 1 -Year term- **Greg Young elected for a 1 year term.**

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

SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS	\$594,500.00
SELECTMEN RECOMMEND	\$594,500.00
VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES	

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

SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS	\$7,500.00
SELECTMEN RECOMMEND	\$7,500.00
VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES	

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 \$0.00
VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

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 \$0.00
VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

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 \$0.00
VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

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

SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$33,457.00
SELECTMEN RECOMMEND \$33,457.00
VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

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 \$0.00
VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

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

SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$28,142.00
SELECTMEN RECOMMEND \$28,142.00
VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

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 \$0.00
VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

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

SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS
SELECTMEN RECOMMEND

\$0.00
\$0.00

VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

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

SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS
SELECTMEN RECOMMEND

\$0.00
\$0.00

VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

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 \$239,818.41**) 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.

STATUTORY RECOMMENDATION

\$239,818.41

SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS

\$239,818.41

SELECTMEN RECOMMEND

\$239,818.41

VOTE: 19 YES - 0 NO, ARTICLE PASSES

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 \$177,357.37**), which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by **\$177,357.37** as required to fund the budget recommended by the Shirley School Committee.

The Shirley School Committee recommends **\$177,357.37** for additional local funds and gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by **\$177,357.37**. 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.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS
SELECTMEN RECOMMEND

\$177,357.37
\$177,357.37

VOTE: 22 YES – 0 NO, ARTICLE PASSES

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, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 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	\$663,599.00
SELECTMEN RECOMMEND	\$663,599.00

VOTE 19 YES – 0 NO, ARTICLE PASSES

ARTICLE 17 To see if the Town of Shirley will authorize the School Committee to expend in the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, 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	Approval

VOTE: APPROVED, ARTICLE PASSES

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	Approval

VOTE: APPROVED, ARTICLE PASSES

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	Approval

VOTE: APPROVED, ARTICLE PASSES

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

1 ST Selectman Wage Expense	2,200.00
2 nd Selectman Wage Expense	2,200.00
3 rd Selectman Wage Expense	2,200.00
Road Commissioner Wage Expense	300.00
Town Clerk Wage Expense	17,000.00
Treasurer Wage Expense	15,000.00
Tax Collector Wage Expense	10,000.00
Sexton Wage Expense	300.00
Librarian Wage Expense	200.00
Training Exp/Workshop Travel	2,000.00
Planning Board Wage Expense	1,000.00
Other Wage Expense	<u>1,500.00</u>
Total Salaries	53,900.00

General Assistance Expense	1,500.00
Town Hall Expense	1,000.00
Phone- Office Expense	3,000.00
Assessing Agent Expense	5,500.00
Administrative Expense	4,000.00
Insurance Expense	10,000.00
Appeals Board Expense	0.00
Computer Expense	14,000.00
Legal Expense	3,000.00
Honor Roll Expense	0.00
Audit Expense	10,000.00
Flags, Glowers & Mem. Expense	1,200.00
Historical Society	750.00
Travel & Mileage Reimbursement	400.00
Electricity Expense Town Bldgs.	2,500.00
Office Supplies	3,500.00
Postage Expense	1,200.00
Payroll & ER Cost	6,500.00
Training & Workshop Dues & Fees	700.00
Heating Fuel & Maint. All Town Buildings	3,500.00
American Red Cross	150.00
Northern Light Ambulance	1,000.00
Community Health & Counseling	168.00
Eastern Area Agency on Aging	150.00
Penquis	741.00
Pine Tree Hospice	75.00

Shaw Public Library	500.00
The LifeFlight Foundation	<u>251.00</u>
General Government	75,285.00

Subtotal General Government	129,185.00
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Recommended:	129,185.00
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VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

ARTICLE 21

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

Street Light Expense	2,500.00
Fire Protection Services	14,864.92
Fire Warden	200.00
Security	<u>1,000.00</u>

Subtotal Protection Services	18,564.92
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Recommended:	18,564.92
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VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

ARTICLE 22

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

Winter Roads Expense-Plow Contract	85,750.00
Trash Pick-up	32,500.00
Recycling Expense Piscataquis UT tipping Fee	6,500.00
Shirley Cemetery Expense	500.00
Future Roads Rebuild Expense	45,000.00
General Town Maintenance Expense	7,000.00
Summer Road Expense	50,000.00
Building Permit Expense	1,000.00
Mowing-Town/Cemetery/Road	7,550.00
Snow removal/shoveling	1,000.00
Playground Expense	500.00
Maintenance Expense Bulky Waste	500.00
Snowmobile Reg Expense	312.00
Animal Control	1,000.00
Dog License State of Maine	<u>200.00</u>

Subtotal Public Works	239,312.00
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Recommended:	239,312.00
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VOTE : YES, ARTICLE PASSES

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.

Recommended:	\$45,000.00
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VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

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. 30th, 2026, and interest Starts Oct. 1st, 2026.

Recommended:

Interest Rate of 7.0%

VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

ARTICLE 25

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

VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

ARTICLE 26

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

Recommended:

\$135,000.00

VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

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.

VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

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.

VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

ARTICLE 29

To see if the town will vote to take the Tax Collector, Treasurer and Sexton positions from elected to appointed beginning at next year's annual 2027 town meeting.

VOTE: 8 YES – 11 NO ARTICLE DOES NOT PASS

ARTICLE 30

Shall the Ordinance entitled 'Town of Shirley Cannabis Licensing Ordinance' be enacted?
(An attested copy of the ordinance is attached)

VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

ARTICLE 31

Shall the Ordinance entitled 'Town of Shirley Land Use Ordinance' be enacted?
(An attested copy of the ordinance is attached)

VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

ARTICLE 32

Shall the Ordinance entitled 'Town of Shirley Commercial Solar Energy Systems Ordinance' be enacted?
(An attested copy of the ordinance is attached)

VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

ARTICLE 33

Shall the Ordinance entitled 'Town of Shirley Solar Energy Ordinance' be enacted?
(An attested copy of the ordinance is attached)

VOTE: NO, ARTICLE DOES NOT PASS

ARTICLE 34

Shall the Ordinance entitled 'Town of Shirley Budget Committee Ordinance' be enacted?
(An attested copy of the ordinance is attached)

VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

ARTICLE 35

To see if the Town of Shirley will vote to move **\$108,449.41** plus May and June's interest from the Greenville Landfill account to the General fund.

ARTICLE AMMENDED: To see if the Town of Shirley will vote to move **\$100,000.00** plus May and June's interest from the Greenville Landfill account to the General Fund.

VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

ARTICLE 36

To see if the Town will vote to approve foundation repair to the Shirley Town Hall in the amount of **\$43,108.00**, To be taken from Escrow Account.

VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

ARTICLE 37

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.

VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

ARTICLE 38

Shall the Town vote to 1) authorize the appropriation of a sum not to exceed Two Hundred Sixty Seven Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Six Dollars (\$267,476) for road improvements and to 2) authorize the funding of this appropriation by issuing general obligation securities, including any borrowing in anticipation of their sale by issuing temporary notes and renewal notes, in the name of the Town on such terms as the Treasurer of the Town and the Selectboard determine are necessary and proper pursuant to 30-A M.R.S.A. § 5772 and other applicable Maine law, including fixing the date(s), maturity(ies), denomination(s), interest rate(s), place(s) of payment, premium(s), call(s), for redemption with or without premium, form(s) and other details of said bonds and notes, and to provide for the sale thereof?

Financial Statement Relating to Article XX:

1. Total Town Indebtedness:

- a. Bonds outstanding and unpaid \$ _____
- b. Bonds authorized and unissued \$ _____
- c. Bonds to be issued if this question is approved _____

Total: \$_____

2. Estimated Costs:

At an estimated maximum interest rate of 5.99% and with an estimated maximum term of six (6) years, the estimated cost of this bond issue will be:

Total Bond Principal:	Up to \$267,476
Total Estimated Interest:	Up to \$_____
Total Estimated Debt Service:	Up to \$_____

Estimated Annual Payments Ranges from \$_____ to \$_____.

3. Validity: The validity of bonds and of the voters' ratification of the bonds may not be affected by any errors in the above estimates. If the actual amount of the total debt service for the bond issue varies from the estimate, the ratification by the electors is nevertheless conclusive and the validity of the bond issue is not affected by reason of the variance.

_____, Treasurer
Town of Shirley

VOTE: YES, ARTICLE PASSES

Dated:

Selectmen of the Town of Shirley

Nick Hanson

Barry Bateman

A true copy of the warrant,

Attest:

Clerk of: Town of Shirley

Return of the Warrant

County of Piscataquis s. s.

I Marc Costantine, certify that I have notified the voters of the Town of Shirley of the time andplace of the Annual Town Meeting by posting an attested copy at the within warrant at the Shirley Town Office and Shirley Town Post Office, a conspicuous public place within the Town of Shirley on **June 8th, 2026**, which is seven days prior to the Annual Town Meeting.

Dated at the Town of Shirley _____

Signature _____