

TOWN OF JEFFERSON
2021 MUNICIPAL WARRANT

To Jaimie Chambers, Clerk of the Town of Jefferson, County of Lincoln, 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 Jefferson in said County and State, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to assemble in the Jefferson Village School in said Town, on Tuesday the 30th day of March, AD, 2021 at eight o'clock in the morning, then and there to act upon Article 1 by written ballot and then upon Article 2 through 34 as set out below by secret ballot. The polling hours will be from eight o'clock in the morning until eight o'clock in the evening.

Pursuant to Title 21-A, Section 759 (7), absentee ballots will be processed at the polls at the following times: 10:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m.

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

Art. 2. To elect by secret ballot the municipal officers for the ensuing year. Namely, one Select Board Member/Assessor/Overseer of the Poor for a three-year term, four members of the Budget Committee for a three-year term, one member of the School Committee for a three-year term and one member of the School Committee for a two-year term.

Art. 3. Shall the Town of Jefferson vote to charge 6% interest on personal and real estate taxes after October 1st following commitment?

Art. 4. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$380,535 for Administration of local government?

Recommended by Select Board: (3-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee: (8-0-0)

<u>Administration</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Officers' Salaries	17,500	17,500
General Salaries	191,573	215,205
Officers' Expenses	2,000	2,000
Office Expenses	39,200	41,300
Legal	7,000	7,000
Audit	18,800	20,800
Insurance/Bonding	13,500	14,000
Planning Board	2,000	2,000
Appeals Board	400	400
Code Enforcement	12,000	12,000
MMA Dues	3,813	3,830
Liens/Discharges	8,500	8,500
Assessors' Agent Salary	26,000	26,000
Elections/Town Meeting	12,500	9,000
Contingency Fund	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
TOTALS	355,786	380,535

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Art. 5. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$171,070 for protection and health and to allow the Select Board to expend Animal Control Revenue in order to offset Animal Control Expense?

Recommended by Select Board: (3-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee: (8-0-0)

<u>Protection/Health</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Transfer Station	87,212	95,070
Streetlights/911 Signs	6,000	5,500
Jefferson Fire Department	55,000	58,000
Forest Fire Suppression	500	500
Animal Control	8,500	8,500
General Assistance	3,000	3,000
Emergency Management	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
TOTALS	160,712	171,070

Art. 6. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$360,014 for roads and highways?

Recommended by Select Board: (3-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee: (8-0-0)

<u>Roads/Highways</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Wages	9,500	9,500
General Road Repair	44,400	44,400
Winter Maintenance	63,000	63,000
Snow Plowing Contracts	<u>243,114</u>	<u>243,114</u>
TOTALS	360,014	360,014

Art. 7. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,418 for unclassified expenses?

Recommended by Select Board: (3-0-0)

Recommended by Budget Committee: (8-0-0)

<u>Unclassified</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Unorganized Cemeteries	1,000	1,000
Memorial Day	500	500
Public Library	6,870	6,918
Jefferson Scholarship	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,000</u>
TOTALS	11,370	11,418

Art. 8. Shall the Town of Jefferson authorize the Select Board to spend an amount not to exceed 5/12 of the budgeted amount in each budget category of the 2021 budget during the period from January 1, 2022 to the 2022 Annual Town Meeting?

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Art. 9. Shall the Town of Jefferson authorize the Select Board to borrow such sums of money as may be necessary to pay current expenses in anticipation of taxes, such sums not to exceed the current tax commitment?

Submitted by the Select Board

Explanation: This will allow the Select Board to borrow money in anticipation of tax income, should the town expenses exceed the balance on hand.

Art. 10. Shall the Town of Jefferson authorize the Select Board to expend the fire truck reserve account and also appropriate from unreserved surplus up to, but not more than \$200,000 for a new rescue/pumper truck?

Submitted by the Jefferson Fire and Rescue and the Select Board.

As of 12/31/2020 there was approximately \$352,994.15 in the fire truck reserve account.

Art. 11. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,250 to fund a Broadband Study to determine the unserved areas of Jefferson for high-speed internet and vote to authorize the Select Board to accept and expend any grant funds received relating to Broadband?

Explanation: \$8,250 would include the creation of accurate maps and documents showing the areas not served by high-speed internet, an infrastructure gap analysis, and a network design to fill coverage gaps. \$6,000 would pay for Service Provider Negotiations which would include creating an RFP (request for proposals), assisting the Town in evaluation proposals, and assisting in preparing partnership proposals. This would finalize the information needed to present the Town with a cost proposal to provide high speed internet to unserved areas in the Town. The term "unserved" means any household with internet speeds of less than 25 megabits down and 3 megabits up as defined by the ConnectMe Authority Board.

Submitted by the Select Board and the Broadband Committee

Art. 12. Shall the Town of Jefferson vote to authorize the Select Board to appropriate from unreserved surplus, as they deem advisable, to meet unanticipated expenses for emergencies in general assistance, winter road repair and winter maintenance that may occur during the fiscal year 2021?

Submitted by the Select Board

Explanation: This will allow the Select Board to continue road repair and maintenance during the winter when there has been an extreme amount of storms as well as allowing the Select Board to continue issuing General Assistance to qualifying people in the event that there is a spike in applications. In both cases it will avoid the necessity of calling a special town meeting in order to plow the roads or to give assistance to a qualifying resident if appropriated funds run out.

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Art. 13. Shall the Town of Jefferson authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon such terms as they deem advisable and to execute quit claim deeds for same? The Select Board is required to advertise the sale of such property for "sealed" competitive bid in the Kennebec Journal, Lincoln County News, and Portland Press Herald at least two weeks prior to such action and to sell such property to the highest bidder or sell it back to the previous owner. The Select Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids. In the event that no bids are acceptable the Select Board may at their discretion choose another means available to sell the property, including listing with a real estate agent. 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).

Art. 14. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed and to pay interest rate of 0% (zero) as a courtesy to tax payers who wish to prepay some or all of their uncommitted taxes.
Submitted by the Select Board

Art. 15. Shall the Town of Jefferson expend from the State Block Grant the sum of \$43,636 for reconstruction of the Linscott Road?
Submitted by the Select Board and Road Commissioner

Art. 16. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,500 for work to be done on the Mountain Road?
Submitted by the Select Board and Road Commissioner

Art. 17. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for work to be done on the Mountain Road?
Submitted by the Select Board and Road Commissioner

Art. 18. Shall the Town of Jefferson authorize the Select Board to appropriate from unreserved surplus an amount of \$500,000 for repaving and reconstruction of Town roads with any unspent funds to be added to the Road Expense Account?
Submitted by the Select Board and Road Commissioner

Art. 19. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,000 for the Jefferson Fire and Rescue Fire Truck and Rescue Reserve Fund? These funds to be invested by the Town Treasurer until needed, with the Select Board's approval of the Fund's use?
Submitted by Jefferson Fire and Rescue

Art. 20. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,500 to help offset the cost of ambulance service for the Town?
Submitted by the Select Board

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Art. 21. Shall the Town of Jefferson vote to raise and appropriate \$3,000 for the Annual Jefferson Scholarship Fund to be expended in its entirety to one or more Jefferson high school graduates for continuing education.

Submitted by the Select Board and the Budget Committee

Explanation: These funds will be available for college or trade school.

Art. 22. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to support Midcoast Conservancy in employing local youth, controlling Hydrilla, and protecting the water resources of Damariscotta Lake?

Submitted by Midcoast Conservancy

Explanation: Midcoast Conservancy staff and volunteers monitor water quality and hires local youth each summer to staff our Courtesy Boat Inspector program, keeping pollution and invasive plants out of Damariscotta Lake.

Art. 23. Shall the Town of Jefferson appropriate the amount of snowmobile registration refund monies received from the State for the benefit of the Jefferson Snopackers Inc.?

Submitted by the Jefferson SnoPackers Inc.

Explanation: The monies are used to maintain the trail system for use by the general public.

Art. 24. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,100 for the benefit of Spectrum Generations?

Submitted by Stephanie Hanner, Community Engagement Officer

Explanation: Provides home delivered meals, homemaker services, respite care, information referrals, etc.

Art. 25. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for the benefit of the American Red Cross?

Submitted by Caroline King, Executive Director

Explanation: Provides help in all major emergencies.

Art. 26. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,194 for the benefit of Health Reach Hospice and Volunteers of Kennebec Valley?

Submitted by Donna Jacobs, Maine General Volunteer Supervisor

Explanation: Provides emotional and practical support for residents who are living with a terminal illness.

Art 27. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$800 for the benefit of Healthy Kids?

Submitted by Leslie Livingston M.S., Executive Director

Explanation: Home visits providing information on parenting, discipline issues, infant care, etc.

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Art. 28. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$700 for the benefit of New Hope for Women?

Submitted by Joan R. Lemole, Development Director

Explanation: Provides a 24-hour hotline for abused/battered women, safe homes, and community education for domestic violence.

Art. 29. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$845 for the benefit of Midcoast Maine Community Action?

Submitted by Claire Berkowitz, President CEO

Art. 30. Shall the Town of Jefferson raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 to help with the operation of Jefferson Community Food Pantry?

Submitted by Aaron Greene-Morse

Art. 31. Shall the Town of Jefferson elect the Select Board to serve as members of the Fish Committee for jurisdiction of alewife rights?

Art. 32. Shall the Town of Jefferson elect Donald Johnston trustee for the Clary Memorial Highway Fund for a three-year term?

Art. 33. Shall the Town of Jefferson elect Candace Hilton for Davis Worthy and Deserving Poor and Shepard Charitable Trust Fund for a three-year term?

Art. 34. Shall the Town of Jefferson appropriate from unexpended surplus an amount not to exceed available funds for the purpose of reducing the tax rate?

Recommended by the Select Board

The Select Board gives notice that the Registrar of Voters will be in session for the purpose of revising and correcting the list of voters on the day of said meetings, namely March 31, 2021.

Gregory A. Johnston

Robert E. Clark Jr. (Jigger)

Pamela J. Grotton

A true copy of the warrant
Attested: Jaimie Renaud