

TOWN OF SKOWHEGAN, MAINE
ANNUAL
TOWN MEETING RESULTS
June 13, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.
Municipal Building - Opera House

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Town of Skowhegan Facebook page****

ARTICLE 1. To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Ken Lexier was chosen as Moderator and sworn in.

Motion and second to allow non-residents to speak.

Passed

ARTICLE 2. To choose, by ballot, the following Town Officials, namely, Two Selectmen, for three-year terms; One Assessor, for a three-year term; One Overseer of the Poor, for a three-year term; One Park Commissioner, for a five-year term; and Three Directors of RSU54/SAD54, for three-year terms.

Article 2 will be voted by secret ballot on June 14, 2022.

Passed

ARTICLE 3. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,741,488.00 for General Government.

| Department | Budget Committee | Votes | Selectmen | Votes |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Finance Department | \$1,481,596.00 | 5/0 | \$1,481,596.00 | 5/0 |
| Municipal Building Maintenance | \$149,711.00 | 5/0 | \$149,711.00 | 5/0 |
| Assessing | \$120,986.00 | 5/0 | \$120,986.00 | 5/0 |
| Town Manager | \$198,892.00 | 5/0 | \$198,892.00 | 5/0 |
| Planning & Ordinance Administration | \$31,984.00 | 5/0 | \$31,984.00 | 5/0 |
| Code Enforcement | \$171,807.00 | 5/0 | \$171,807.00 | 5/0 |
| Employee Benefits | \$230,427.00 | 5/0 | \$230,427.00 | 5/0 |
| Town Insurances | \$175,580.00 | 5/0 | \$175,580.00 | 5/0 |
| Economic & Community Development | \$180,505.00 | 5/0 | \$180,505.00 | 5/0 |
| General Government Total | \$2,741,488.00 | | \$2,741,488.00 | |

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,984,441.00 for Police Department. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,181,315.00 for Fire Department. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,900.00 for Public Safety Building. (The Selectmen with a 4/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 6/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$586,306.00 for Other Protection. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$128,717.00 for Health and Human services.

| Department | Budget Committee | Votes | Selectmen | Votes |
|--|-------------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| General Assistance | \$127,425.00 | 5/0 | \$127,425.00 | 5/0 |
| Health Department | \$1,292.00 | 5/0 | \$1,292.00 | 5/0 |
| General Assistance/Health Dept. Total | \$128,717.00 | | \$128,717.00 | |

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$724,450.00 for Waste Water and Pollution Control. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$946,299.00 for Solid Waste and Recycling. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$638,628.00 for Public Works – Summer Roads Maintenance. (The Selectmen with a 4/1 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$837,690.00 for Public Works – Winter Roads Maintenance. (The Selectmen with a 4/1 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$282,000.00 for Public Works – Vehicle Maintenance. (The Selectmen with a 4/1 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$124,460.00 for the care of cemeteries. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$629,219.00 for Parks and Recreation. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,217,653.00 for Capital Expenditures/Debt Retirement. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 17. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for the Pollution Control Plant. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$58,950.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for the Recreation Department. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 19. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$59,000.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for the Municipal Building. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 4/1 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for the Opera House. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$61,500.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for the Solid Waste Department. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 22. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for the Police Department. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 4/1 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 23. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$397,000.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for Public Works Equipment. (The Selectmen with a 4/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 4/1 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 24. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,030,000.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for Public Works Roads and Sidewalks. (The Selectmen with a 3/1 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 25. To see if the town will vote to accept and carry forward, in a separate account, sums that may be received from the State Department of Transportation Local Road Assistance Program estimated at \$150,220.00. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 26. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to expend the amounts voted in Articles 24 and 25 from the Capital Improvement Program/Public Works Roads and Sidewalks account for the town's share of the following proposed projects: Paving/work planned for East Ridge Road, Eaton Mountain Road, Sandy Lane, Bigelow Hill Road, Mechanic Street, Free Street, South Street, Poplar Street, Pratt Court, Kennebec Street and Pomelow Street. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 27. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$242,000.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for the Fire Department. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 28. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for Emergency Management. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 29. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for Administration. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 30. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for Assessing. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 31. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for Economic & Community Development. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 32. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for Cemeteries. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 33. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,500.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for the Planning Department. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 34. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for Public Works Buildings. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommends passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 35. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 for Capital Expenditures/Capital Reserve Funds for Street Lights. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 36. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$195,000.00 for Skowhegan Free Public Library. The Community Service Organization's request by petition is \$195,000.00. (The Selectmen with a 4/1 vote and the Budget Committee with a 4/1 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 37. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,000.00 for Coburn Park Commission. The Community Service Organization's request by petition is \$12,000.00. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 38. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 for Skowhegan History House. The Community Service Organization's request by petition is \$10,000.00. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote recommend \$0.00 and the Budget Committee with a 4/1 vote recommends passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 39. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 for Eaton Mountain Foundation. The Community Service Organization's request by petition is \$25,000.00. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote recommend \$0.00 and the Budget Committee with a 3/1/1 vote recommends passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 40. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000.00 for Main Street Skowhegan. The Community Service Organization's request by petition is \$60,000.00. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 4/1 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 41. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,000.00 for Skowhegan Welcome & Business Center. The Community Service Organization's request by petition is \$31,000.00. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 42. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 for Lake George Regional Park. The Community Service Organization's request by petition is \$30,000.00. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote recommend \$15,000.00 and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommends passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 43. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,000.00 for Family Violence Project. The Human Service Agency's request by petition is \$6,000.00. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote recommend \$0.00 and the Budget Committee with a 4/0/1 vote recommends passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 44. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,370.00 for Spectrum Generations. The Human Service Agency's request by petition is \$8,370.00. (The Selectmen with a 4/1 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 45. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$21,000.00 for Hospice Volunteers of Somerset County. The Human Service Agency's request by petition is \$21,000.00. (The Selectmen with a 4/1 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 46. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,007.00 for Sexual Assault Crisis & Support. The Human Service Agency's request by petition is \$3,007.00. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 47. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,000.00 for Skowhegan Community Food Cupboard. The Human Service Agency's request by petition is \$18,000.00. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 48. To see if the Town will vote to apply FY 2023 operational revenues in the amount of \$2,569,657.00 to offset the FY 2023 appropriations. (The Selectmen with a 5/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 5/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 49. To see if the town will vote to appropriate an amount from undesignated fund balance, not to exceed \$1,850,000.00, toward one or more of the following purposes:

- a. to appropriate funds in the amount of \$75,000.00 to the Opera House Reserve Account;
- b. to appropriate funds in the amount of \$75,000.00 to the Village Partnership Initiative (50% Town match);
- c. \$1,700,000.00 to reduce the tax commitment.

(The Selectmen with a 4/0 vote and the Budget Committee with a 6/0 vote recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 50. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to transfer an amount not to exceed 1% of the total town budget between budget categories as they deem advisable to meet unanticipated expenses and emergencies that occur during fiscal year 2023. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 51. To see if the Town will vote to establish September 15, 2022, or 30-days after the commitment date of taxes, whichever is later, as the date when the first installment of taxes shall be due and payable and March 15, 2023 as the date when the second installment of taxes shall be due and payable and to see if the Town will fix the rate of 4% interest to be charged on all taxes unpaid after said dates. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 52. To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 506-A to fix the rate of 0% interest to be paid on overpaid or abated taxes. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 53. To see if the Town will vote to apply as much of the yearly overlay as may be necessary to fund property tax abatements and applicable interest granted during fiscal year 2023. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 54. To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 506, to authorize the tax collector and treasurer to accept the prepayment of taxes not yet committed. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 55. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to enter into a standard agreement with year-round residential taxpayers establishing a “Tax Club” payment plan for property taxes, whereby: (1) the taxpayer agrees to pay specified monthly payments to the Town based on his/her estimated and actual tax obligation for current year property taxes; (2) the Town agrees not to charge interest or penalties on timely payments made pursuant to the tax club agreement; (3) the Town authorizes the Tax Collector to accept tax club payments for current taxes which may be due prior to the commitment of those taxes; (4) the agreement is automatically terminated if a scheduled payment is late, and the taxpayer then becomes subject to the same due dates and interest dates and rates as other taxpayers who are not participating in a tax club; (5) only taxpayers who do not have any outstanding tax obligation for prior tax years are eligible to participate in the tax club program; and (6) taxpayers wishing to participate in a tax club for a particular property tax year shall enter into agreement with the Town by a publicly-advertised deadline determined by the Tax Collector. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 56. To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for, accept and expend, on behalf of the Town, grant funds from state government agencies, federal government agencies, or private organizations for any purpose they deem in the best interest of the Town. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 57. To see if the Town, as the Legislative body will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen approving, applying for and accepting all Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), and to make such assurances, assume such responsibilities and exercise such authority as are necessary and reasonable to implement such programs with the understanding that should the intended National Objective of the CDBG program not be met, all CDBG funds must be repaid to the State of Maine CDBG program. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 58. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate all of the money received from the State for snowmobile registrations to the Skowhegan Snow-Hawks Snowmobile Club for the maintenance of their system or network of snowmobile trails, on the condition that those trails be open in snow season to the public for outdoor recreation purposes at no charge, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an agreement with the Club, under such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen may deem advisable, for that purpose. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 59. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of by the most prudent means possible, any equipment, vehicles, furniture or other non-real estate town property that is no longer necessary to town operations. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 60. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the town, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the town for non-payment of taxes due thereon, on such terms as they deem advisable and to issue quit-claim deeds for such property. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 61. To see if the Town will vote to allow the Town Treasurer, after Board of Selectmen approval, to file a waiver of automatic foreclosure at the Registry of Deeds, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 944, on real estate that may be burdensome for the Town. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 62. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell the property located at 31 Mechanic Street (Map 23, Lot 108). (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 63. To see if the Town will vote to repeal and replace the Property Maintenance Ordinance. Adopted at Town Meeting June 12, 2017. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 64. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the amended Animals and Fowl Ordinance. Last amended at Town Meeting March 8, 1999. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 65. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the amended Sign Ordinance. Adopted at Special Town Meeting October 28, 2014. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 66. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the amended Site Plan Review Ordinance. Last amended at Town Meeting June 9, 2008. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 67. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the amended Street Naming and House Numbering Ordinance. Last amended at Town Meeting March 8, 2004. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

ARTICLE 68. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to purchase a piece of property, located at 8 Mt. Pleasant Avenue (Map 26, Lot 5) from Joshua C. Bowden and Emma L. Arrowsmith, now known as Emma L Bowden for an amount not to exceed \$95,000.00 from the Sappi TIF Account. (The Selectmen recommend passage of this article.)

Passed as written.

Motion and second to adjourn.

Passed