

2017 Annual Warrant

To David Welch, Constable
of the Town of Mercer
in the County of Somerset,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Mercer qualified to vote in town affairs to meet at the **Mercer Community Center** in said Town of Mercer on **Friday, the 3rd day of March**, 2017, at 10 o'clock a.m., to elect all Town Officials. The polls will open immediately after the election of a Moderator and will remain open until 8 o'clock p.m. The business meeting will be held in the gym of the **Mercer Community Center on Saturday the 4th day of March, 2017** beginning at 6 o'clock pm, immediately following a 5 o'clock Public Dinner, that will be served in the Solarium.

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

ARTICLE 2: To elect a Town Clerk, three Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor, a Tax Collector, and a Treasurer all for one year terms, a Trustee of Shaw Library for a five year term, a person to serve on the Planning Board for a three year term.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of \$242,529 established for Mercer by state law, in the event that the municipal budget approved under the following articles results in a tax commitment greater than that limit.

Budget Committee recommends.

ARTICLE 4: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the salaries of Town Officers.

1 st Selectman	4,500.00
2 nd Selectman	4,000.00
3 rd Selectman	4,000.00
Town Clerk	6,424.00
Treasurer	10,858.00
Tax Collector	12,119.00
Selectmen's Sec	2,040.00
Dep. Clerk/Collector	3,641.00
Registrar	500.00
Office Assistant/Deputy	500.00

\$48,582.00

Budget Committee recommends \$48,582 from Taxes.

ARTICLE 5: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to cover the Town's share of F.I.C.A. and Medicare costs of town salaries.
Budget Committee recommends .0765% from Taxes (Est. \$5,400) as required by law based on the total Town Payroll

ARTICLE 6: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for selectpersons' emergency contingencies. Any and all use of the funds will be fully and explicitly reported to the 2017 annual report.
Budget Committee recommends \$10,000 from Surplus

ARTICLE 7: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for annual dues of the Maine Municipal Association.
Budget Committee recommends \$1671 from Surplus

ARTICLE 8: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Liability and Property Insurance.
Budget Committee recommends \$10,604 from Taxes

ARTICLE 9: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Liability Insurance for Public Officials plus Bonds.
Budget Committee recommends \$1,565 from Taxes

ARTICLE 10: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for worker's comp insurance & unemployment for town employees.
Budget Committee recommends \$1,550 from Taxes

ARTICLE 11: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Town Office, Shaw Library, Municipal Center, and Town Expense.
Budget Committee recommends \$31,000 from Taxes plus any revenues or donations generated by the center. Any remaining balance will be placed in municipal center capital reserve fund

ARTICLE 12: To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise and appropriate for annual maintenance of the TRIO accounting & assessing program.
Budget Committee recommends \$5,000 from Taxes

ARTICLE 13: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Assessing.
Budget Committee recommends \$9000 from Taxes. Any remaining balance to be placed in the Assessing Reevaluation Fund

ARTICLE 14: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Solid Waste Disposal, Recycling and Blue Bag purchase.
Budget Committee recommends \$25,000 from Taxes plus all Transfer Station revenue

ARTICLE 15: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for the Planning Board.

Budget Committee recommends \$1,000 from Surplus

ARTICLE 16: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for Animal Control.

Budget Committee recommends all dog account revenue plus \$5,100 from Surplus

ARTICLE 17: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for Cemetery Care.

Budget Committee recommends \$3,500 from Surplus, plus fund interest

ARTICLE 18: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Town of Mercer Office of Emergency Management.

Budget Committee recommends \$1,500 from Taxes

ARTICLE 19: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the 2016 Town Audit.

Budget Committee recommends \$3,000 from Taxes

ARTICLE 20: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for public safety. This will include fire protection provided by the Town of Norridgewock and traffic & street lights.

Budget Committee recommends \$20,135 from Taxes

ARTICLE 21: To see what percentage the Town will vote to deduct on all taxes assessed in 2017 that are paid in full on or before the 30th day after the date of the mailing of the tax bills.

Budget Committee recommends 2%

ARTICLE 22: To see what rate the Town will vote to charge and collect interest on all taxes assessed in 2017 that are unpaid 60 days after the date of the mailing of the tax bills.

Budget Committee recommends the 7% allowed by state law per annum

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$9,325 for Shaw Library.

Budget Committee recommends \$9,325 from Taxes

ARTICLE 24: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Summer Road maintenance.

Budget Committee recommends \$85,000 from Taxes

ARTICLE 25: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for the paving the section of Main Street from where the paving previously ended, heading east toward Town.

Budget Committee recommends all funds to come from 2017 LRAP and up to \$10,000 from the Summer Roads account, \$12,909.43 (plus all accrued interest up to date of payment) from the Town Forest Revenue Fund, and \$10,000 from Surplus

ARTICLE 26: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Winter Road maintenance, including plowing, sanding and stockpiling sand and salt.

Budget Committee recommends \$136,000. \$110,000 will come from Excise Tax, \$20,000 from Taxes plus any short fall to come from Surplus

ARTICLE 27: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for General Assistance.

Budget Committee recommends \$17,500 from Surplus, plus all State reimbursements

ARTICLE 28: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for charity. A minimum of 50% of this will be spent in the town of Mercer.

Budget Committee recommends \$2,000 from Taxes

ARTICLE 29: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Mercer Old Home Days.

Budget Committee recommends \$500 from Taxes

ARTICLE 30: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Mercer Historical Society.

Budget Committee recommends \$500 from Taxes

ARTICLE 31: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for various Youth Leagues.

Budget Committee recommends \$1000 from Taxes

ARTICLE 32: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate to supplement the three town scholarship awards.

Budget Committee recommends \$425 from Surplus -- \$200 for each high school award and \$25 for the elementary award

ARTICLE 33: To see if the Town will vote to elect from the floor at this meeting, five individuals to serve as a Budget Committee. The committee will meet with the selectmen within 60 days for the purpose of electing a Chairperson.

ARTICLE 34: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for training costs of CEO and LPI.

Budget Committee recommends \$400 from Surplus

ARTICLE 35: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for CEO compensation.

Budget Committee recommends up to \$1,500 from Surplus, plus all application fees

ARTICLE 36: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000 for North Pond Association.

Budget Committee recommends \$1000 from Taxes

ARTICLE 37: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to continue to fund the Mercer Road Emergency Fund.

Budget Committee recommends \$2,000 from Taxes

ARTICLE 38: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for Mercer Rescue Service.

Budget Committee recommends \$4,600 from Surplus

ARTICLE 39: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to join with other participating municipal and quasimunicipal employers in a Multiple Employer Welfare Arrangement for the provision of employee health benefits, as authorized by 24-A M.R.S.A. § 6601 et seq., said Arrangement to be known as the "Maine Municipal Employees Health Trust" (Health Trust); and for that purpose and in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements among participating employers, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a Participation Agreement on behalf of the Town and take whatever other actions may be necessary. The authority granted herein shall continue until revoked.

ARTICLE 40: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Health Insurance coverage

(\$10,175 is requested)

Budget Committee recommends \$500/month from Taxes

ARTICLE 41: 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. section 944, on real estate that may be burdensome on the Town.

The Selectmen of Mercer hereby give notice that the Registrar of Voters will be on duty at the Town Office on Friday March 3, 2017, the said day of voting, from 10 o'clock a.m. until the polls are closed and on Saturday March 4, 2017, the said day of business meeting, from 5 o'clock until 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of correcting the list of eligible voters.

Given under our hands this 26th day of January, 2017.

Vernon E. Worthen II

Christopher M. Tibbetts

Robert E. Gardner

Citizens Return:

I certify that I have notified the voters of the Town of Mercer of the time and place of the town meeting by posting an attested copy of the within warrant at Mercer Town Office & Community Center, Christy's Country Store, Mercer Shaw Library, all being conspicuous public places within the Town of Mercer, on February ___, 2017, which is at least 7 days prior to the day of said meeting.

Dated at Mercer, Maine this ____th day of February, 2017.

David Welch, Constable