

2018 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 2nd day of March, 2018**, 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 3rd day of March, 2018** 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, two persons to serve on the Planning Board for each a three year term and a Director of School Board MSAD # 54 for a term of three years.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of \$253,394 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	4,500.00
2 nd Selectman	4,000.00	4,000.00
3 rd Selectman	4,000.00	4,000.00
Town Clerk	7,024.00	6,424.00
Treasurer	11,458.00	10,858.00
Tax Collector	12,719.00	12,119.00
Selectmen's Sec	2,040.00	2,040.00
Dep. Clerk/Collector/Treasurer	4,141.00	4,141.00
Registrar	500.00	500.00
Office Assistant/Deputy	3,500.00	3,500.00
	\$53,882.00	\$52,082.00

(\$53,882 is requested)

Budget Committee recommends \$52,082 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. \$5,800) 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 2018 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 \$1,698 from Surplus

ARTICLE 8: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for General Liability and Property Insurance.

Budget Committee recommends \$11,251 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 \$1,613 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 \$2,300 from Taxes

ARTICLE 11: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Health Insurance coverage

(\$14,513.64 is requested)

Budget Committee recommends \$13,062.28 (90% of premium) from Taxes.

ARTICLE 12: 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 13: 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 \$6,800 from Taxes

ARTICLE 14: 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 Re-Evaluation Fund

ARTICLE 15: 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 \$23,000 from Taxes plus all Transfer Station revenue

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

Budget Committee recommends \$1,000 from Surplus

ARTICLE 17: 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 18: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for Cemetery Care.

(\$5,000 is requested)

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

ARTICLE 19: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Town of Mercer Office of Emergency Management (C.E.R.T.)

Budget Committee recommends \$1,500 from Taxes

ARTICLE 20: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the 2017 Town Audit.

Budget Committee recommends \$3,150 from Taxes

ARTICLE 21: 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 \$21,875 from Taxes

ARTICLE 22: To see what percentage the Town will vote to deduct on all taxes assessed in 2018 that are paid in full on or before the 30th day after the date of the mailing of the tax bills.

Budget Committee has no recommendation.

ARTICLE 23: To see what rate the Town will vote to charge and collect interest on all taxes assessed in 2018 that are unpaid 60 days after the date of the mailing of the tax bills.

Budget Committee recommends the 8% allowed by state law per annum

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$9,325 for Shaw Library.

Budget Committee recommends \$9,325 from Taxes

ARTICLE 25: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Summer Road maintenance.

Budget Committee recommends \$90,000 from Taxes

ARTICLE 26: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for paving.
Budget Committee recommends all funds to come from 2018 LRAP and up to \$10,000 from the Summer Roads account and \$10,000 from Surplus

ARTICLE 27: 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 \$160,000. \$134,000 will come from Excise Tax, \$26,000 from Taxes plus any short fall to come from Surplus

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to enter into a contract for a period of not more than five years for the purpose of winter roads maintenance on such terms as they deem to be in the Town's best interest.

ARTICLE 29: 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 30: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for charity. A minimum of 50% of this to be spent in the town of Mercer.
Budget Committee recommends \$2,000 from Taxes

ARTICLE 31: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Mercer Meeting House Association (Mercer Old Home Days) for necessary Bell Tower and skirting repair to the building as well as to fund Old Home Days Weekend.
Budget Committee recommends \$500 from Taxes

ARTICLE 32: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Mercer Historical Society, for the maintenance of the collection of artifacts and restoration of the building.
Budget Committee recommends \$500 from Taxes

ARTICLE 33: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for various Youth Leagues.
Budget Committee recommends \$750 from Taxes

ARTICLE 34: 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 35: 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 36: 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 37: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for CEO compensation.

Budget Committee recommends up to \$2,500 from Surplus, plus all application fees

ARTICLE 38: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,000 for North Pond Association.

(\$2,000 is requested)

Budget Committee recommends \$1,000 from Taxes

ARTICLE 39: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to appropriate for Mercer Rescue Service.

Budget Committee recommends \$4,500 from Surplus

ARTICLE 40: 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 41: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to continue to fund the Assessing Re-Evaluation Fund.

(\$2,000 is requested)

Budget Committee does not recommend

ARTICLE 42: To see what some of money the town will vote to appropriate for a survey of the town forest. Money to be replaced when the town forest is harvested.

Budget Committee recommends \$4,000 from Surplus

ARTICLE 43: To see if the town will vote to increase the length of the terms of the Town Clerk, Treasurer, and Tax Collector, to be phased in beginning with the 2019 annual town meeting from 1-year terms to 3-year terms.

ARTICLE 44: Shall the Town adopt an ordinance entitled "Ordinance for the Recall of Elected Officials"? (Copy of the ordinance is posted with this warrant and a copy is on file at the Mercer Town Office).

ARTICLE 45: To see if the town will vote to authorize the tax collector or treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 506, the amount collected not to exceed the previous year's taxes. Interest on any prepayment will be zero percent.

ARTICLE 46: To see if the Town of Mercer will accept the Somerset Cultural Plan; a cultural plan for Somerset County, created by the Somerset Cultural Planning Committee, a committee within the Wesserunsett Arts Council. The Somerset Cultural Plan can be used as a tool for individuals and organizations when applying for grants.

ARTICLE 47: To see if the Town of Mercer will vote to accept a grant on behalf of Shaw Public Library in the amount of \$925.00 from Redington-Fairview General Hospital (on behalf of Somerset Public Health) to help establish a social gathering place for healthy aging in the Town of Mercer.

The Selectmen of Mercer hereby give notice that the Registrar of Voters will be on duty at the Town Office on Friday March 2, 2018, the said day of voting, from 10 o'clock a.m. until the polls are closed and on Saturday March 3, 2018, 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 1st day of February, 2018.

Vernon E. Worthen II

Christopher M. Tibbetts

Norman G. Redlevske

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 ___, 2018, which is at least 7 days prior to the day of said meeting.

Dated at Mercer, Maine this ___th day of February, 2018.

David Welch, Constable

SEE ATTACHED ORDINANCE TO BE VOTED ON AT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ON
MARCH 3RD, 2018

TOWN OF MERCER
ORDINANCE FOR THE RECALL OF ELECTED MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

SECTION 1. Applicability and Establishment

Any elected Official of the Town of Mercer, except School Board Members, may be recalled and removed from office as herein provided.

SECTION 2. Petitions for Recall

a. Recall shall be initiated by petition.

b. The petition for recall must contain only signatures of the registered voters of the Town of Mercer, equal to twenty percent (20%) of the number of votes cast in Mercer in the last Gubernatorial election.

c. The petition shall be addressed to those members of the Board of Selectmen having no interest in the subject matter of the petition, but the petition shall in every case, be filed with the Town Clerk or Deputy Town Clerk.

d. The petition shall state the name and office, or offices, of the person whose removal is being sought.

e. If recall of more than one official is being sought there shall be a separate petition for each official whose removal is being sought.

f. Each page of the petition shall be ruled, and each line shall provide a space for the voters' signatures, address and printed name.

g. All pages of a single petition shall be filed as one document. The Town Clerk or Deputy Town Clerk shall not file the petition until at least one person supplies contact information on behalf of the petitioners.

SECTION 3. Clerk's Certification

Within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the petition the Town Clerk or Deputy Town Clerk shall certify the signatures contained on the petition and shall determine if the petition meets all of the requirements as set forth in Section 2 of this Ordinance. Should the petition be found insufficient, the petition will be retained in the Town Clerk's Office and the person who filed the petition will be notified.

SECTION 4. Calling the Recall Election

a. If the petition is certified by the Town Clerk or Deputy Town Clerk to be sufficient, he or she will submit the same with his or her certification to the Board of Selectmen at their next regular meeting and shall notify the official or officials whose removal is being sought of such action.

b. The Board of Selectmen upon receipt of the certified petition shall within ten (10) days' time of receipt order an election by secret ballot, pursuant to 30-A MRSA S2528, to be held forty-five (45) days thereafter.

c. No petition for recall will be accepted during the first ninety (90) days or during the last ninety (90) days if a multi-year term.

d. Once a recall petition has been called and failed, no recall may be filed within ninety (90) days after such vote.

SECTION 5. Ballots for Recall Election

Unless the official, or officials, whose removal is being sought have resigned within ten (10) days of receipt of the petition by the Board of Selectmen, the ballots shall be printed and shall read "SHALL _____ BE RECALLED FROM THE OFFICE OF _____?" (with the name of the official whose recall is being sought inserted in the blank space). If the petition seeks the recall of a person from more than one office, each office must be named.

SECTION 6. Result of the Election

In an event of an affirmative vote for removal, such vote shall take effect the day following the day of voting.

SECTION 7. Vacancies to be Filled

Any vacancy resulting from the removal from office under this ordinance shall be filled in accordance with the provisions contained in the Maine State Statutes.

Adopted at Annual Town Meeting _____

Given under our hands this ___ day of March, 20__

Board of Selectmen