

# WARRANT

TO: Anne Pastore a resident of the Town of Otisfield, County of Oxford, and State of Maine. In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Otisfield, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Otisfield Community Hall on State Route 121, in said Town, on June 24, 2023 at 9:00 in the forenoon, to act on the following articles, to wit:

- Article 1 To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.
- Article 2 To choose a Selectmen/ Assessor/ Overseer of the Poor for a three-year term.
- Article 3 To choose a Chairman of the Board of Selectmen/ Assessors/ Overseers of the Poor for the ensuing year.
- Article 4 To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for Otisfield by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the following articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit. Note: A vote on this article requires a written ballot.  
*Finance Committee recommend we do so.*  
*Selectmen recommend we do so.*

Article 5 To see if the town will vote to give the Selectboard the authority to waive automatic property foreclosures, giving the treasurer the ability to record a waiver of foreclosure in accordance with state statute.  
*Selectmen recommend we do so.*

Article 6 To see if the Town will note to raise and appropriate the sum of \$463,950 for the **General Government** accounts A-J written below;

	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY23</u>
A. Selectmen’s Salaries.....	\$19,500	\$19,500
B. Administration-Compensation.....	\$185,500	\$175,000
C. Office Expenses.....	\$15,000	\$20,500
D. Elections.....	\$4,000	\$4,000
E. Legal Services.....	\$10,000	\$10,000
F. Municipal Buildings and Grounds.....	\$137,200	\$110,000
G. Contingency.....	\$10,000	\$10,000
H. Revaluation Reserve Account (142,707 balance) .....	\$30,000	\$10,000
I. Health Officer.....	\$750	\$750
J. Insurance (W.C, Properties, Unemployment) .....	\$52,000	\$48,000
<i>Finance Committee recommend \$463,950</i>		
<i>Board of Selectmen recommend \$463,950</i>		

Article 7 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$266,366 for **Employee Benefits** Accounts A-D below;

	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY23</u>
A. Health Insurance .....	\$161,600	\$144,600
B. Social Security.....	\$46,500	\$45,000
C. Maine State Retirement.....	\$52,000	\$50,0000
D. Short Term Disability.....	\$6,266	\$5,560
<i>Finance Committee recommend \$266,366</i>		
<i>Board of Selectmen recommend \$266,366</i>		

Article 8 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$208,327 for **Public Safety and Cemeteries:** Accounts A-F below:

	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY23</u>
A. Fire Department .....	\$108,989	\$105,579
B. Code Enforcement .....	\$66,038	\$62,300
C. Animal Control.....	\$4,200	\$4,200
D. Street Lights .....	2,000	\$1,800
E. Beach Gate.....	10,100	\$9,500
F. Cemeteries.....	\$17,000	\$13,500
<i>Finance Committee recommend \$208,327</i>		
<i>Board of Selectmen recommend \$208,327</i>		

Article 9 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,152,600 for **Public Works:** Accounts A-P below;

	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY23</u>
A. Compensation .....	\$295,800	\$279,000
B. Road Construction Reserve (257,441) .....	\$10,000	\$10,000
C. Equipment Replacement Reserve (181,357).....	\$80,000	\$80,000
D. Tarring and Resurfacing.....	\$300,000	\$300,000
E. Materials.....	\$250,000	\$175,000
F. Equipment Expense .....	\$80,000	\$80,0000
G. Road Patch .....	\$25,000	\$25,000
H. Road Signs .....	\$500	\$500
I. Roadside Brush.....	\$5,000	\$5,000
J. Road Striping .....	\$6,500	\$5,500
K. DOT Drug & Alcohol Testing.....	\$500	\$500
L. Uniforms .....	\$2,500	\$2,500
M. Fuel .....	\$65,000	\$53,200
N. Contract Plowing.....	\$12,000	\$10,000
O. Equipment Lease and Rental .....	\$8,0000	\$12,000
P. Contract Road Constructions.....	\$11,800	\$0.00
<i>Finance Committee recommend \$1,152,600</i>		
<i>Board of Selectmen recommend \$1,152,600</i>		

Article 10 To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to apply for and accept **state and federal grants from non-profit organizations** on behalf of the Town for municipal purposes, including when necessary the authority to sign grants ,contracts, documents or other paperwork and accept the conditions that accompany grant funds, and to appropriate and expend grand funds for authorized purposes as the Board of Selectmen deems in the best interest of the Town.

*Finance Committee recommend we do so.*

*Board of Selectmen recommend we do so.*

Article 11 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,750 for **Boards and Committees**. Accounts A - C below;

	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY23</u>
A. Planning Board .....	\$2,000	\$2,000
B. Appeals Board.....	\$250	\$250
C. Recreation Department.....	\$10,500	\$9000

*Finance Committee recommend \$12,750*

*Board of Selectmen recommend \$12,750*

Article 12 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$74,264 for **Contractual Services** for the ensuing year: Accounts A - O below;

	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY23</u>
A. Maine Municipal Association.....	\$3,337	\$3,337
B. Printing of Town Report .....	\$1,250	\$1,250
C. Audit.....	\$7,500	\$12,000
D. Mapping .....	\$3,000	\$2,000
E. Assessing & Software Support.....	\$26,500	\$26,000
F. AVCOG .....	\$4,600	\$4,563
G. Water Pollution Control .....	\$250	\$250
H. Pitney Bowes Postage Meter .....	\$788	\$788
I. TRIO Software Licensing .....	\$14,715	\$17,666
J. Security System Monitoring .....	\$5,000	\$1,200
K. Virtual Town Hall WEB Site .....	\$2,977	\$2,300
L. Computer IT .....	\$2,500	\$2,500
M. Copier Lease .....	\$1,397	\$1,397
N. Carbonite- off site computer backup .....	\$450	\$450
O. Domain Fee .....	\$0.00	\$400

*Finance Committee recommend \$74,264*

*Board of Selectmen recommend \$74,264*

Article 13 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,222, for **Health & Social Welfare Agencies and Library** expenses for the ensuing year. Accounts A - S below;

	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY23</u>
A. Project Graduation .....	\$100	\$100
B. School Snack.....	\$1,000	\$500
C. Western ME Vet Advisory Com.....	\$0	\$0
D. Seniors Plus .....	\$500	\$500
E. SAPRS .....	\$400	\$400
F. Life Flight .....	\$927	\$885
G. Bolsters Mill Library .....	\$500	\$500
H. Healthcare Access Program .....	\$545	\$515
I. Community Garden.....	\$200	\$200
J. Tri County Mental Health .....	\$0	\$0
K. Casco Library .....	\$2,500	\$2,500
L. Safe Voices (AWAP) .....	\$250	\$200
M. Community Concepts .....	\$0	\$500
N. Maine Public Radio-Television.....	\$100	\$100
O. Freeland Holmes Library .....	\$0	\$0
P. Cancer Research of Western Maine .....	\$200	\$200
Q. Casco Library CPL Project.....	\$5,000	\$0
R. American Legion.....	\$500	\$0
S. Androscoggin Home Health.....	\$500	\$0

*Finance Committee recommend \$13,222*

*Board of Selectmen recommend \$13,222*

Article 14 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for **Capital Improvement Reserves**.

	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY23</u>
A. CIP (55,501) .....	\$10,000	\$10,000

*Finance Committee recommend we do so.*

*Selectmen recommend we do so.*

Article 15 To see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,250 for **maintenance and operation of dams** located on town lakes. Accounts A - C below;

	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY23</u>
A. Thompson Lake... ..	\$5,000	\$5,000
B. Pleasant Lake Reserve (4,000) .....	\$1,000	\$1,000
C. Saturday Pond Reserve (1,000) .....	\$250	\$250

*Finance Committee recommend \$6,250*

*Board of Selectmen recommend \$6,250*

Article 16 To see if the Town will vote to give authority to the Selectmen:

- A. To dispose of any real estate acquired by the town for non-payment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they may deem advisable and to execute quit claim deeds for such property, to use excess funds from the sale of tax acquired property to maintain town owned property and negotiate contracts for snow removal and sanding.
- B. To fix a date when taxes are due and payable and to fix a rate of interest to be charged on taxes unpaid after that date and set an interest rate that the town will pay on rebated taxes for the fiscal year.
- C. For the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes not yet due or assessed, and set **October 15, 2023** for the first half payment due date, and **April 15, 2024** as the second half payment due date. Interest charged at a rate of 8% on delinquent taxes, and 0% paid on any overpayment.
- D. To dispose of surplus Town property.  
*Finance Committee recommend we do so.*  
*Board of Selectmen recommend we do so*

Article 17 To see if the Town will vote to give the **snowmobile registration** refund from the State to the Otisfield Trailblazers Snowmobile club for trail maintenance.  
*Finance Committee recommend we do so.*  
*Board of Selectmen recommend we do so.*

Article 18 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$175,000 for **Solid Waste** expenses for the ensuing year.

	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY23</u>
<i>Finance Committee recommend</i>	\$175,000	\$165,000
<i>Board of Selectmen recommend</i>	\$175,000	

Article 19 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 for **General Assistance** (Welfare) for the ensuing year.

	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY23</u>
<i>Finance Committee recommend</i>	\$2,000	\$2,000
<i>Board of Selectmen recommend</i>	\$2,000	

Article 20 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$9,000 to **preserve our lakes** for the ensuing year: Accounts A & B below;

	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY23</u>
A. TLEA .....	\$5,000	\$5,000
B. Pleasant Lake/Parker Association .....	\$4,000	\$4,000
<i>Finance Committee recommend \$9,000</i>		
<i>Board of Selectmen recommend \$9,000</i>		

Article 21 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$91,757 for **Debt and interest**. Accounts A – D below;

	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY23</u>
A. Tank Truck (10 of 10 years) .....	\$17,776	\$17,775
B. Town Garage Bond (11 of 20 years) .....	\$29,120	\$29,156
C. MMBB Pleasant Lake Dam (7 of 10) .....	\$27,290	\$27,290
D. Squad Truck (4 of 10) .....	\$17,571	\$17,571
<i>Finance Committee recommend \$91,792</i>		
<i>Board of Selectmen recommend \$91,792</i>		

Article 22 TO see if the Town will vote to accept the proposed “Solar Energy Generation Systems Ordinance” update. This allows for solar system installation on town owned property “for municipal use” of up to 100 acres.

*Planning Board recommend we do so.*  
*Board of Selectmen recommend we do so.*

Article 23 To see if the Town will vote to transfer \$277,908 from the General Fund to a Storm Damage Reserve account. These were the funds that remained in the TIF Account when it expired.

*Finance Committee recommend we do so.*  
*Board of Selectmen recommend we do so.*

Article 24 To see if the Town will vote to accept a deeded easement generally following the route of Fox Run Lane to the property of Lester F. Thomas Inter Vivos Trust across town owned property. In return the Trust will provide a deeded easement across their property to the shores of Moose Pond which will provide Otisfield Residents access to the Pond. The Board of Selectmen will have the authority to approve or reject the survey, which will be paid for by the Trust.

*Board of Selectmen recommend we do so.*

Article 25 To see if the Town will vote to establish the “Emergency Heating Assistance Fund” as a non-lapsing account, authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept donations and grants for those purposes to be deposited into the fund, and further authorize the Board of Selectmen to appropriate and expend funds from the account based on needs-based criteria outlined in a policy adopted by Board?

*Board of Selectmen recommend we do so*

Article 26 To see if the town will vote to increase the size of the Selectboard from a total of three to a total of five starting in FY-25 (July 1, 2024). This would include one additional Selectman/ Assessor/ Overseer of the Poor for a three-year term and another for a two-year term in order to stagger the terms.

*Board of Selectmen recommend we do so*

Article 27 To see what sum the town will vote to appropriate from estimated ANTICIPATED NON-PROPERTY REVENUES to reduce the property taxes for the fiscal year 2024 Accounts A-M below, or take any action thereon;

	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY23</u>
A. Excise Tax (motor vehicle and boat) .....	\$425,000	\$420,000
B. Building and Plumbing Permits.....	\$24,000	\$24,000
C. Other Permits (Junkyard, weapons) .....	\$600	\$675
D. All Agent Fees.....	\$12,000	\$12,000
E. Vital Record Fees .....	\$1,200	\$1,150
F. Lien Costs .....	\$4,500	\$3,800
G. Bank Interest.....	\$3,000	\$2,000
H. Interest of Taxes.....	\$10,500	\$11,350
I. Local Road Assistance (LRAP).....	\$62,500	\$62,900
J. Animal Welfare Fees .....	\$1,200	\$1,100
K. Miscellaneous Revenues .....	\$6,000	\$4,500
L. Tree Growth Reimbursements/Penalties .....	\$10,000	\$10,000
M. Community Hall Rental Fees.....	\$3,000	\$2700
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	\$563,500	\$556,175

*Finance Committee recommend \$563,500*

*Board of Selectmen recommend \$563,500*

Article 28 **Motion to Adjourn**

  
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 Hal Ferguson

  
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 Rick Micklon

  
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 Lenny Adler