

Remember

VOTING- June 09, 2015 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

TOWN MEETING -Saturday, June 13, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

At Sportsmen's Club for Voting & Town Meeting

(NOTE: The following was what existed at press time in Mid-May. The true and posted Warrant may differ to a slight degree)

**TOWN WARRANT
TOWN OF LITCHFIELD**

To: Mark Russell, a resident of the Town of Litchfield in the County of Kennebec.

Greetings:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Litchfield to meet at the Litchfield Sportsmen's Club on Tuesday, the 09th day of June 2015 A.D. at eight o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to act on the following articles, to wit:

SECTION I - ADMINISTRATION

Art. 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Art. 2. To elect all TOWN OFFICERS required by law and previous vote of the Town to be chosen by secret ballot; namely, Selectmen, Litchfield Academy Trustee, RSU4 Board Director and Budget Committee. The polls will open at eight o'clock in the morning and will close at eight o'clock in the evening. The meeting will then adjourn after the ballots have been tallied and reconvene at the Sportsmen's Club at ten o'clock Saturday morning, June 13th, 2015 A.D.

Art. 3. To see if the Town will vote to hear and discuss any reports of any Boards, Committees, or Officers (whether residing in Town or not) of the Town.

Art. 4. To see if the Town will vote to fix Oct. 15, 2015 or up to 30 days after commitment, whichever is later, Jan. 15, 2016, and April 15, 2016 as the dates on each of which one-third of the property taxes are due and payable, and as the dates from which interest will be charged on any unpaid taxes and liens for tax year 2015-16 at the rate of 2.0% per year.

Art. 5. Shall the Town authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes not yet committed or assessed? (This Article required by State Law Title 36 MRSA §506)

Selectmen Recommend: Ought to Pass

Art. 6. Shall the Town authorize the Tax Collector to pay interest at a rate of 0% from the date of overpayment on any taxes paid and later abated? (Title 36 MRSA §506A).

Selectmen Recommend: Ought to Pass

Art. 7. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept gifts of money, or personal property and/or real estate to the Town and to appropriate and expend such gifts for such public purposes as the Selectmen deem to be in the best interest of the Town.

Selectmen Recommend: Ought to Pass

Art. 8. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept state and federal grants from nonprofit organizations on behalf of the town for municipal purposes, including when necessary, the authority to sign the grant contracts and accept the conditions that accompany grant funds, and to appropriate and expend grant funds for the authorized purposes.

Selectmen Recommend: Ought to Pass

Explanation: The Town needs the authorization of the Town Meeting, which is the legislative body of the town, to apply for many grants. This article avoids the need for a Special Town Meeting to authorize the Board of Selectmen to submit an application for grant funding on behalf of the Town and to accept any grant funds awarded. This article would allow an appropriation of grant funds, and expenditures of these grant funds.

- Art. 9 . To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for LIBRARY services.
Selectmen Recommend: \$19,788
Budget Committee Recommends: \$19,788
- Art. 10. To see what sum (of money) the Town will establish for each SELECTMAN.
Selectmen Recommend: \$2,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$2,000
- Art. 11. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for ADMINISTRATION.
Selectmen Request: \$248,813.
Budget Committee Recommends: \$248,813.
- Art. 12. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for GENERAL GOVERNMENT.
Selectmen Request: \$39,550
Budget Committee Recommends: \$39,550
- Art. 13. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for EMPLOYEE BENEFITS.
Selectmen Request: \$97,910
Budget Committee Recommends: \$97,910
- Art. 14. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for INSURANCE.
Selectmen Request: \$58,200
Budget Committee Recommends: \$58,200
- Art. 15. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for LEGAL EXPENSES.
Selectmen Request: \$10,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$10,000
- Art. 16. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for GENERAL ASSISTANCE, and that a similar sum be transferred as required from State Dept. of Human Services funds.
Selectmen Request: \$18,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$18,000
- Art. 17. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for PLANNING BOARD/BOA/BAR.
Selectmen Request: \$1,800.
Budget Committee Recommends: \$1,800
- Art. 18. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for TOWN OFFICE OPERATIONS.
Selectmen Request: \$13,870
Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 13,870
- Art. 19. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for OFFICE EQUIPMENT/SERVICE.
Selectmen Request: \$22,750
Budget Committee Recommends: \$22,750
- Art. 20. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for ANIMAL CONTROL, including Kennebec Valley Humane Society assessment of \$5,600.
Selectmen Request: \$15,175
Budget Committee Recommends: \$15,175
- Art. 21. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for LITCHFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT and RESCUE; and that any unexpended balance carry into the Fire Equipment and Rescue Reserve fund.
Selectmen Request: \$89,750
Budget Committee Recommends: \$89,750

Art. 22. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for FOREST FIRES AND OUTSIDE HELP.
Selectmen Request: \$2,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$2,000

Art. 23. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for EMERGENCY SERVICES.
Selectmen Request: \$31,127
Budget Committee Recommends: \$31,127

Art. 24. To see what sum the Town will appropriate for AMBULANCE SERVICE.
Selectmen Request: \$30,000
Budget Committee Recommends at Town Meeting \$30,000

Art. 25. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for STREET LIGHTS and FLASHING INTERSECTION LIGHTS.
Selectmen Request: \$ 3,200.
Budget Committee Recommends: \$3,200

Art. 26. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for the PUBLIC WORKS and that any unexpended balance carry into the Public Works Equipment Reserve Fund.
Selectmen Request: \$350,900
Budget Committee Recommends: \$350,900

Art. 27. To see what sum the Town will raise for PUBLIC WORKS CAPITAL EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND and what sum the Town will appropriate from the PUBLIC WORKS CAPITAL EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND

Selectmen Request: RAISE: \$50,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$50,000

Selectmen Request: APPROPRIATE: \$70,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$70,000

Art. 28. To see what sum the Town will raise for the CAPITAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT and to see what sum the Town will appropriate from the CAPITAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT Carryforward Account

Selectmen Request; \$610,000
Budget Committee Recommend: \$610,000

Art. 29. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for PAVING Carryforward Account and that any unexpended balance carry into the PAVING Reserve Fund.

Selectmen Request: \$0
Budget Committee Recommends: \$0

Art. 30. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for the TOWN GARAGE.
Selectmen Request: \$18,100
Budget Committee Recommends: \$18,100

Art. 31. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for the TRANSFER STATION.
Selectmen Request: \$67,637
Budget Committee Recommends: \$67,637

Art. 32. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the CAPITAL PROJECTS RESERVE FUND and to be used by the Selectmen as they deem reasonable.
Selectmen Request: \$30,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$30,000

Art. 33. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for care and maintenance of CEMETERIES.
Selectmen Request: \$7,240
Budget Committee Recommends: \$7,240

Art. 34. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for dues for the KENENBEC VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS.

Selectmen Request: \$5,681
Budget Committee Recommends: \$5,681

Art. 35. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for DEBT SERVICE.

Selectmen Request: \$110,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$110,000

Art. 36. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Town's share for operation and maintenance of the NEW MILLS DAM and WOODBURY POND DAM (\$7,100), and that any end of year balances be transferred to respective maintenance reserve funds.

Selectmen Request: \$7,100
Budget Committee Recommends: \$7,100

Art. 37. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for RECREATION.

Selectmen Request: \$15,645
Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 15,645

Art. 38. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for WEB TECH.

Selectmen Request: \$400
Budget Committee Recommend: \$400

Art. 39. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for SPECIAL PROJECTS.

Selectmen Request: \$10,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$10,000

Art. 40. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the TOWN NEWSLETTER.

Selectmen Request: \$7,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$7,000

Art. 41. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the CONSERVATION COMMISSION.

Selectmen Request: \$3,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$3,000

Art. 42. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the SENIOR CENTER.

Selectmen Request: \$5,100
Budget Committee Recommends: \$5,100

Art. 43. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the SENIOR DIRECTOR (including \$100.00 travel allowance).

Selectmen Request: \$10,735
Budget committee: \$10,735

(This permanent part-time position is for 15 hours/week)

Art. 44. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the CONTINGENCY FUND and authorize the Selectmen to use as they deem advisable to meet unanticipated expenses that occur during Fiscal Year 2014-15.

Selectmen Request: \$ 10,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$10,000

CHARITIES

Note: Charities and Organizations approved at the 2014 Annual Town Meeting were allowed warrant placement (if requested) for 2015. Others needed to submit a petition for warrant placement and requested amount with signatures of 50 Litchfield registered voters.

Art. 45. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the following Public Service Agencies.

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Requested Amount</u>
Community Food Bank	2,200.
Rural Community Action Ministry	2,700.
Spectrum Generations.....	1,898.
Family Violence	1,600
Kennebec Behavioral Health	3,200
American Red Cross	1,000.
K.V.C.A.P.Transportation	600.
Crisis/Assault Support	1,089
Androscoggin Home Care/Hospice	500
TLIS/CYC	1750
D.A.S.H	<u>5,000</u>
Total	\$21,537

Selectmen Recommend: Ought to Pass
 Budget Committee Recommends: Ought to Pass

Art. 46. To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of established by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limits.

Selectmen Recommends: Ought to Pass
 Budget Committee Recommends: Ought to Pass

Art. 47. To see if the Town will vote to accept the following categories of funds as provided by the Maine State Legislature during our fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015: Municipal Revenue Sharing, U.R.I.P., State Aid to Education (including Federal pass-through funds and property tax relief), Public Library State Aid per Capita, Civil Emergency Funds (Emergency Management Assistance), Snowmobile Registration Money, Tree Growth Reimbursement, General Assistance Reimbursement, Veterans Exemption Reimbursement and State Grants or other Funds (this category includes all funds received from the State Grants or are not listed above).

Selectmen Recommends: Ought to Pass
 Budget Committee Recommends: Ought to Pass

Art. 48. To see if the Town will appropriate the following estimated revenues (including July 1, 2015 balances) to reduce 2015-16 Tax Commitment:

	REVENUES					
	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	(Projected)
					(Budgeted)	
Excise (Auto)	400,000	484,628	517,112	475,000	480,000	500,000
Excise (Boat)	8,000	5,983	6,815	8,000	7,000	7,000

Building Permit Fees & Fines	10,000	7,900	5,620	12,000	7,000	7,000
Plumbing Permit Fees	5,000	7,252	8,686	6,000	6,000	6,000
G.A. Reimbursement	7,000	6,169	5,552	7,000	7,000	7,000
Transfer Station Tipping	7,000	7,322	9,738	8,000	8,500	8,500
Town Clerk Fees	5,000	4,083	4,603	5,000	5,000	5,000
Animal Control Revenue	3,000	1,939	1,863	2,500	2,500	2,500
Tree Growth Reimbursement	5,000	15,528	14,039	15,000	5,000	15,000
BETE Reimbursement	0	0	0	0	4,000	4,000
Interest on Taxes & Liens	30,000	24,684	13,133	20,000	10,000	10,000
Lien Cost/Tax Sale	7,000	6,356	8,263	8,000	8,500	8,500
Veterans Reimbursement	1,000	1,509	1,538	1,600	1,700	1,900
Vehicle Agent Fees	24,000	17,117	18,249	15,000	15,000	15,000
Interest on Investment	3,000	1,894	4,870	3,500	3,000	3,000
G. Earle Trust	200	0	0	200	0	0
State Revenue Sharing (minim	165,000	177,650	184,885	165,000	109,500	109,500
Cable TV Franchise	4,000	3,836	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
U.R.I.P.	50,000	50,112	48,000	48,000	51,000	47,200
Misc. Revenue	10,000	5,172	7,000	7,000	8,000	8,000
Totals	\$ 758,800	829,134	864,086	810,800	753,200	827,000

Selectmen Recommend: Ought to Pass

Budget Committee Recommends: Ought to Pass

Art. 49. To see what sum the Town will vote to appropriate from the Unassigned Fund Balance Account to reduce the Tax Commitment.

Selectmen Request: At Town Meeting

Budget Comm. Recommends: At Town Meeting

Art. 50. To see what sum the Town will transfer from the Unassigned Fund Balance to the Capital Equipment Reserve Account, per order of Auditors.

Selectmen Request: 36,297

Budget Comm. Recommends: 36,297

Art. 51. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate 100% of snowmobile registration monies to the Snowmobile Club in 2015-2016.

Board of Selectmen Recommends: Ought to Pass

Art. 52. To see if the Town will vote to allow the Selectmen to appropriate the money raised for overlay to pay tax abatements and applicable interest granted during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015..

Selectmen Recommend: Ought to Pass

Budget Comm. Recommends: Ought to Pass

Explanation: Many communities fail to appropriate money to be used to pay abatements granted during that budget period. They simply use the overlay generated through the tax commitment. Even though 36 M.R.S.A. § 710 authorizes assessors to raise overlay, there is no authority to spend the amount of the overlay without a town appropriation vote.

Art. 53. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen at their discretion to transfer up to 10% of the June 30, 2015 balance of the Town Forest Reserve Account to the Fuel Fund.

Selectmen Recommend: Ought to Pass

Budget Comm. Recommends: Ought to Pass

(Note: Originally, the article establishing the Town Forest Reserve account designated that interest only from the account will be used for the reduction of taxes. In 2004, this was amended to authorize selectmen to appropriate monies from the Town Forest Reserve Account for various forest management purposes. In 2014 this amended to allow 10% to be transferred to the Litchfield Fuel Fund. By June 30, 2015. The Selectmen did not transfer).

Notice is hereby given that the Registrar will be in session for the purpose of correcting any error in, or change a name or address on the voting list; to accept the registration of any person eligible to vote and accept new enrollments from 10:00 A.M. in the forenoon until the close of Town Meeting on Saturday, June 13, 2015.

Given under our hands this 11th day of May, 2015.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

George Thomson _____

Mark Russell _____

Rayna Leibowitz _____