

Remember

VOTING- June 13, 2017 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

TOWN MEETING -Saturday, June 17, 2017 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: Bryan Lamoreau, 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 13<sup>th</sup> day of June 2017 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 17th, 2017 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, 2017 or up to 30 days after commitment, whichever is later, Jan. 15, 2018, and April 15, 2018 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 2017-18 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 (of money) the Town will establish for each SELECTMAN  
Selectmen have no Recommendation: \$2,000 for terms ending 2018 and 2019  
\$3,000 for terms ending 2020  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$2,000 & \$3,000
- Art. 10. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for ADMINISTRATION.  
Selectmen Request: \$240,835.  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$240,835.
- Art. 11. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for GENERAL GOVERNMENT.  
Selectmen Request: \$42,000  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$42,000
- Art. 12. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for EMPLOYEE BENEFITS.  
Selectmen Request: \$141,800  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$141,800
- Art. 13. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for INSURANCE.  
Selectmen Request: \$59,450  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$59,450
- Art. 14. 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. 15. 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: \$10,000  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$10,000
- Art. 16. 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. 17. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for TOWN OFFICE OPERATIONS.  
Selectmen Request: \$14,020  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 14,020
- Art. 18. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for OFFICE EQUIPMENT/SERVICE.  
Selectmen Request: \$27,800  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$27,800
- Art. 19. 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: \$18,775  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$18,775
- Art. 20. 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: \$113,650  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$113,650
- Art. 21. 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. 22. To see what sum the Town will appropriate for AMBULANCE SERVICE.

Selectmen Request: \$23,737

Budget Committee Recommends at Town Meeting \$23,737

Art. 23. 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. 24. 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: \$380,300

Budget Committee Recommends: \$380,300

Art. 25. 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; \$400,000

Budget Committee Recommend: \$400,000

Art. 26. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for the TOWN GARAGE.

Selectmen Request: \$20,350

Budget Committee Recommends: \$20,350

Art. 27. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for the TRANSFER STATION.

Selectmen Request: \$71,455

Budget Committee Recommends: \$71,455

Art. 28. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for EMERGENCY SERVICES.

Selectmen Request: \$28,905

Budget Committee Recommends: \$28,905

Art. 29. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for RECREATION.

Selectmen Request: \$15,850

Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 15,850

Art. 30. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for care and maintenance of CEMETERIES.

Selectmen Request: \$8,540

Budget Committee Recommends: \$8,540

Art. 31. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the TOWN NEWSLETTER.

Selectmen Recommend: \$7,550

Budget Committee Recommends: \$7,550

Art. 32. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for WEB TECH.

Selectmen Request: \$600

Budget Committee Recommend: \$600

Note: Charities and Organizations approved at the 2017 Annual Town Meeting were allowed warrant placement (if requested) for 2018. Others needed to submit a petition for warrant placement and requested amount with signatures of 50 Litchfield registered voters.

Art. 33. 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>
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	1,200
Androscoggin Home Care/Hospice	500
TLIS/CYC	1,750
D.A.S.H	<u>5,000</u>
Total	\$19,448

Art. 34 . To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for LIBRARY services.

Selectmen Recommend: \$20,586  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$20,586

Art. 35. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for dues for the KENENBEC VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS.

Selectmen Request: \$5,736  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$5,736

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 (\$4,000), and that any end of year balances be transferred to respective maintenance reserve funds.

Selectmen Request: \$9,100  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$9,100

Art. 37. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for DEBT SERVICE.

Selectmen Request: \$71,200  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$71,200

Art. 38. 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: \$100,000  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$100,000

(Note: Single Source Recycling and Central Fire Station roof)

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

Selectmen Request: \$20,000  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$20,000

(Note: Parking Lot Community Park, Matching Grant and Improvements Transfer Station)

Art. 40. 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. 41. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the SENIOR CENTER.  
Selectmen Request: \$3,900  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$3,900

Art. 42. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the SENIOR DIRECTOR (including \$100.00 travel allowance). This permanent part-time position is for 15 hours/week.

Selectmen Request: \$11,259  
Budget committee: \$11,259

Art. 43. 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 2017-18.  
Selectmen Request: \$ 10,000  
Budget Committee Recommends: \$10,000

Art. 44. To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of \$0, 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. 45. 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, 2017: 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. 46. To see if the Town will appropriate the following estimated revenues (including July 1, 2017 balances) to reduce 2017-186 Tax Commitment:

	2014-15	2015-16	REVENUES	
			2016-17 (Budget)	2017-18 (Projected)
Excise (Auto)	564,742	612,869	525,000	525,000
Excise (Boat)	7,438	8,607	6,000	6,000
Building Permit Fees & Fines	7,335	12,325	7,000	7,000
Plumbing Permit Fees	6,155	11,012	6,000	7,000
G.A. Reimbursement	5,823	2,778	7,000	4,500
Transfer Station Tipping	10,453	10,287	8,500	9,000
Town Clerk Fees	4,478	4,647	5,000	5,000
Animal Control Revenue	1,805	1,824	2,000	2,000
Tree Growth Reimbursement	9,957	11,220	13,000	13,000
Tree Growth Penalty	0	0	0	1,000
BETE Reimbursement	3,756	3,674	3,700	1,000
Interest on Taxes & Liens	8,638	8,226	8,000	8,000
Lien Cost/Tax Sale	8,561	6,344	8,500	9,000
Veterans Reimbursement	2,577	0	1,900	2,400
Vehicle Agent Fees	16,444	14,582	13,000	13,000
Interest on Investment	3,453	3,631	3,000	3,000
State Revenue Sharing (min.)	115,000	112,778	128,000	128,000
Cable TV Franchise	3,168	3,269	3,500	5,000
U.R.I.P.	47,156	47,628	47,200	47,412
Misc. Revenue	63,928	69,932	80,000	85,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 908,369</b>	<b>957,532</b>	<b>884,300</b>	<b>891,612</b>

Selectmen Recommend: Ought to Pass

Budget Committee Recommends: Ought to Pass

Art. 47. 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. 48. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate 100% of snowmobile registration monies to the Snowmobile Club in 2015-2016.

Selectmen Recommends: Ought to Pass

Budget Committee Recommends: Ought to Pass

Article 49 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for COBBOSSEE WATERSHED.

Selectmen Recommends: \$34,804

Budget Committee Recommends: \$34,804

Article: 50 To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for COUNTY TAX.

Selectmen Recommend: \$340,089

Budget Committee Recommends: \$340,089

Art. 51. 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, 2018.

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. 52. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen at their discretion to transfer up to 10% of the June 30, 2017 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. This is a recurring article as of this date the Selectmen has not had to transfer any money).

Art. 53 Shall the Ordinance entitled "Town of Litchfield Land Use Ordinance" (adopted June 2004 and last amended June 2013) be further amended by adding to Section 8, 0, 2. (G) Signs".?

Selectmen Recommend: At Town Meeting

Budget Committee Recommend: At Town Meeting

Art. 54 Shall the Ordinance entitled "Town of Litchfield Land Use Ordinance" (adopted June 2004 and last amended June 2013) be further amended by adding Section 8, Q "Architectural Neighborhood Standards"?

Selectman Recommend: At Town Meeting

Budget Committee Recommends: At Town Meeting

Art. 55 Shall the Ordinance entitled "Town of Litchfield Subdivision Ordinance" (adopted June 2000 and last amended and last amended June 2012) be further amended by adding to Section 2, 4" Shoreland District"?

Selectman Recommend: At Town Meeting

Budget Committee Recommend: At Town Meeting.

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 17, 2017.

Given under our hands this 8th day of May, 2017.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Mark Russell \_\_\_\_\_

George Thomson \_\_\_\_\_

Rayna Leibowitz \_\_\_\_\_