

Remember

VOTING- June 11, 2019 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

TOWN MEETING -Saturday, June 15, 2019 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 11th day of June 2019 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 15th, 2019 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, 2019 or up to 30 days after commitment, whichever is later, Jan. 15, 2020, and April 15, 2020 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 2018-19 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 Request: \$3,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$3,000

Art. 10. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for ADMINISTRATION.

Selectmen Request: \$252,668.
Budget Committee Recommends: \$252,668.

Art. 11. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

Selectmen Request: \$46,990
Budget Committee Recommends: \$46,990

Art. 12. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for EMPLOYEE BENEFITS.

Selectmen Request: \$164,871
Budget Committee Recommends: \$164,871

Art. 13. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for INSURANCE.

Selectmen Request: \$62,616
Budget Committee Recommends: \$62,616

Art. 14. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for LEGAL EXPENSES.

Selectmen Request: \$25,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$25,000

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

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: \$14,230
Budget Committee Recommends: \$14,230

Art. 18. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for OFFICE EQUIPMENT/SERVICE.

Selectmen Request: \$37,300
Budget Committee Recommends: \$37,300

Art. 19. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for ANIMAL CONTROL, including Kennebec Valley Humane Society assessment of \$5,800.

Selectmen Request: \$19,510
Budget Committee Recommends: \$19,510

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: \$118,250
Budget Committee Recommends: \$118,250

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 raise and appropriate for AMBULANCE SERVICE.

Selectmen Request: \$43,715
Budget Committee Recommends: \$43,715

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 HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND.

Selectmen Request: \$454,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$454,000

Art. 25. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for 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: \$23,650
Budget Committee Recommends: \$23,650

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

Selectmen Request: \$91,265
Budget Committee Recommends: \$91,265

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

Selectmen Request: \$42,806
Budget Committee Recommends: \$42,806

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

Selectmen Request: \$15,958
Budget Committee Recommends: \$15,958

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

Selectmen Request: \$8,890
Budget Committee Recommends: \$8,890

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

Selectmen Request: \$6,950
Budget Committee Recommends: \$6,950

Art. 32. 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	3,000
Litchfield Food Bank	2,000
Spectrum Generations	1,898
Family Violence	3,000
Kennebec Behavioral Health	3,200
American Red Cross	1,200
K.V.C.A.P. Transportation	600
Crisis/Assault Support	1,200
Androscoggin Home Care/Hospice	500
TLA/CYC	1,800
D.A.S.H	5,000
Total	\$23,398

Selectmen Request: \$23,398
Budget Committee Recommends: \$23,398

Note: New Charities and Organizations need 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 LIBRARY services.

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

Art. 35. 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 (5,100) 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. 36. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for DEBT SERVICE.

Selectmen Request: \$61,200
Budget Committee Recommends: \$61,200

Art. 37. To see what sum the Town will vote to transfer from the Unassigned Fund Balance to the FIRE EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND. (Note: Fire Equipment Pumper Truck)

Selectmen Request: \$100,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$100,000

Art. 38. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the purchase of a new Fire Truck, total price not to exceed \$604,000.

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

Art. 39. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to secure a loan for an amount not to exceed \$604,000 for the purchase of the fire truck with a term of 5 years at an interest rate not to exceed 4%, and appropriate an interest payment not to exceed \$12,500 from the FIRE EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND.

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

Art. 40. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for CAPITAL PROJECTS and to be used by the Selectmen as they deem reasonable, and that any unexpended balance carry into the CAPITAL PROJECTS RESERVE FUND.

Transfer Station (Tractor w/ front-end loader): \$15,000
RCM Tower Oak Hill Road: \$20,000

Selectmen Request: \$35,000
Budget Committee Recommends: \$35,000

Art. 41. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for SPECIAL PROJECTS and to be used by the Selectmen as they deem reasonable, and that any unexpended balance carry into the SPECIAL PROJECTS RESERVE FUND.

Transfer Station 3RD Pad/Remove Trees (Prep for 3 Pads): \$7,000
Revaluation (Second and Final year): \$77,271
Town Office Renovation: \$20,000
Community Park Parking Lot: \$5,000
Recreation Field Maintenance: \$2,500

Selectmen Request: \$111,771
Budget Committee Recommends: \$111,771

Art. 42. 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. 43. 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. 44. 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: \$11,930
Budget Committee Recommends: \$11,930

Art. 45. 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 2018-19.

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

Art. 46 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, 2019: 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 that are not listed above).

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

Art. 47. To see if the Town will appropriate the following estimated revenues (including July 1, 2019 balances) to reduce 2019-20 Tax Commitment:

	REVENUES			
	2016-17 (Actual)	2017-18 (Actual)	2018-19 (Budget)	2019-2020 (Projected)
Excise (Auto)	630,202	644,964	575,000	625,000
Excise (Boat)	7,408	7,895	6,000	6,000
Building Permit Fees & Fines	5,285	8,715	7,000	7,000
Plumbing Permit Fees	8,805	9,542	7,000	7,300
G.A. Reimbursement	766	551	3,000	3,000
Transfer Station Tipping	11,021	13,351	9,500	11,000
Town Clerk Fees	4,650	3,920	5,000	5,000
Animal Control Revenue	1,514	1,525	2,000	2,000
Tree Growth Reimbursement	10,679	10,082	13,000	13,000
Tree Growth Penalty	1,004	0	1,000	1,000
BETE Reimbursement	538	495	1,000	1,000
Interest on Taxes & Liens	9,205	9,652	8,000	8,500
Lien Cost/Tax Sale	3,723	5,223	9,000	9,000
Veterans Reimbursement	2,404	2,417	2,400	2,400
Vehicle Agent Fees	15,452	10,328	13,000	13,000
Interest on Investment	4,934	7,264	3,000	7,200
State Revenue Sharing (min.)	128,077	150,496	157,000	182,000
Cable TV Franchise	7,825	21,200	15,000	20,000
U.R.I.P.	47,412	48,168	48,168	47,748
Misc. Revenue	16,508	4,437	8,500	8,500
Homestead Reimbursement	105,050	141,843	85,000	150,000
Totals	\$ 1,022,462	1,102,068	978,568	1,129,648

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

Art. 48. To see what sum the Town will vote to appropriate from the Unassigned Fund Balance Account to reduce the Tax Commitment.

Selectmen Recommend: \$100,000
Budget Committee Recommends: At Town Meeting

Art. 49. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate 100% of snowmobile registration monies to the Litchfield Snowmobile Club in 2019-2020.

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

Art. 50. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for COBBOSSEE WATERSHED.

Selectmen Recommend: \$37,012
Budget Committee Recommends: \$37,012

Art. 51. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for COUNTY TAX.

Selectmen Recommend: \$379,339
Budget Committee Recommends: \$379,339

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, 2019.

Selectmen Recommend: Ought to Pass
Budget Committee 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 amend the procedures concerning disposal of tax-acquired property adopted under Article 16 of the 1995 Annual Town Meeting and to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon and to execute quit claim deeds for said property, said real estate to be sold as follows:

1. A notice of intent to sell such property shall be published in two newspapers of general circulation in Kennebec County and the Town's website (www.litchfieldmaine.org) at least four weeks prior to such sale, inviting interested parties to submit sealed bids thereon.

2. The parties from whom the property has been taken for non-payment of taxes thereon may purchase said real estate from the Town at any time before the expiration of fourteen days from the date of such publications, the purchase price in the latter case being all unpaid taxes on said property, plus interest, plus lien costs, plus the cost of the publication of the notice and plus the cost of the quit claim deed.

3. In the event the parties from whom the real estate was taken by the Town for unpaid taxes fail to redeem the property as provided in Paragraph 2, then the Board of Selectmen may sell the property to the highest sealed bidder or the property may be kept and maintained by the Town should the Board of Selectmen decide that the property could be used for municipal purposes, or that the Board of Selectmen could waive foreclosure if it would be in the best interest of the Town.

4. Notwithstanding any requirements stated in Paragraphs 1 - 3 of this article, the municipal officers shall use the special sale process required by 36 MRS 943-C for qualifying homestead property formerly owned by seniors if they choose to sell the property to anyone other than the former owner(s).

This article shall remain in effect, subject to an amendment by the next article of this Town Meeting, until rescinded or amended at a future Annual Town Meeting.

Selectmen Recommend: Ought to Pass

Art. 54. To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 52 by adding the following sentence to Paragraph 1: "This notice of intent to sell shall also be forwarded to the Chairman of the Conservation Commission who may cause the Conservation Commission, at a properly notified meeting, to review said property and make recommendations concerning the desirability of the Town keeping and maintaining the property.

Selectmen Recommend: Ought to Pass

Art. 55. To see if the Town will vote to remove a certain parcel of land from the Town of Litchfield Municipal Lands Declaration of Trust for the sole purpose of creating a radio communication facility that is required for the public safety of the employees and residents of the Town of Litchfield according to the following conditions:

1. The facility will be constructed and operated according the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.

2. The parcel to be removed is generally described as a two- acre parcel in the Northeast corner of Map R4 Lot 25. A survey of the parcel will be completed and recorded in the Kennebec County Registry of Deeds prior to the facility becoming functional.

3. In the event that this facility does not get built prior to July 1, 2021 this parcel will remain within the Town of Litchfield Municipal Lands Declaration of Trust.

(Note: the Declaration of Trust was approved at the 2003 Annual Town Meeting, amended at the 2004 Annual Town Meeting and recorded at Book 10146 Page 70 (Document #2009019145) in the Kennebec County Registry of Deeds, said document allows for the removal of property from the trust by an affirmative vote at a legally held Annual Town Meeting.)

Selectman Recommend: Ought to Pass

Art. 56. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen at their discretion to transfer up to 10% of the June 30, 2019 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 was amended to allow 10% to be transferred to the Litchfield Fuel Fund. (The Selectmen have not chosen to transfer any money yet.)

Art. 57. Shall the Ordinance entitled Town of Litchfield Land Use Ordinance (adopted June 2004 and last amended June 2018) be further amended as follows:

Section 3 Permit Requirements

Adding 3.1.5 For a new or expanded land use activity as listed and permitted in the Land Use Table within this Ordinance or the Table of Land Uses contained within the Shoreland Zone Ordinance.

Amend 3.2.1 For any allowed use activity as listed in the Land Use Table within this Ordinance or the Table of Land Uses contained within the Shoreland Zone Ordinance.

Section 7 Land Use Districts

Add note number 5. The Code Enforcement Officer shall allow a lessening of setback requirements for access structures, as necessary, to facilitate reasonable accessibility to existing structures for individuals with disabilities. This provision shall apply to proposed construction of disability access to existing structures only. Any access structure built under this provision shall be temporary to facilitate the disabilities of current occupants and shall be removed when no longer needed. Fees for permits issued under this section shall be waived. See full language in Draft Copies

Art. 58. Shall the Ordinance entitled Town of Litchfield Shoreland Zoning Ordinance (adopted December 1997 and last amended June 2018) be further amended as reflected in the Ordinance dated June 15, 2019 to bring the Ordinance into compliance with State of Maine Shoreland Zoning Guide Lines. See full language in Draft Copies

Art. 59. To see if the Town will approve "An Order to Close the Gustin Road to Winter Maintenance" which was approved at the Board of Selectmen's Meeting of May 28, 2019. This Order is for the closure of the Gustin Road to Winter Maintenance from the intersection of the Gustin Road and Oak Hill Road south/east downhill to utility pole #84. This Order will remain in effect for five years from the period of October 1 to April 30 of each successive year until 2024.

Selectmen Recommend: Ought to Pass

Art. 60. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to Transfer an additional \$2,775 from the Unassigned Fund Balance, to complete the Fire Alarm Project at the Litchfield Academy Building to ensure compatibility with the alarm equipment that exists in the Libby-Tozier School.

Selectmen Request: \$2,775

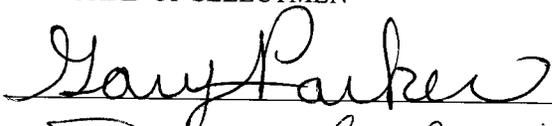
Budget Comment Recommends: \$2,775

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 15, 2019.

Given under our hands this 28th day of May, 2019.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Gary Parker



Rayna Leibowitz



Mark Russell

