

TOWN OF NEWCASTLE

RESULTS
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
AND SECRET BALLOT ELECTION
Monday, June 5, 2023 AND Tuesday, June 20, 2023

To R. Benjamin Frey, a resident for the Town of Newcastle, in the County of Lincoln, State of Maine,

GREETING:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Newcastle in said County and State, qualified by law to vote in the town affairs, to meet at the Fire Station building at 86 River Rd on Tuesday, the 13th day of June, A.D. 2023 at 8:am, then and there to act upon Article 1 - Article 2 by secret ballot as set out below, the polling hours therefore to be from 8:00am until 8:00 in the evening; Article 3-29 are to be voted on at open Town Meeting to be held Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 7:00 in the evening to meet at 81 Academy Hill Road, in the Lincoln Academy cafeteria.

Article 1: To elect a moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

Article 2: To elect by secret ballot, in accordance with the vote of the town, the following offices:

- 1: Two (2) Select Board Members/Assessors and Overseers of the Poor for a three-year term
- 2: One (1) member of the Great Salt Bay School Committee for a three-year term

OPEN TOWN MEETING
Tuesday, June 20, 2023, 7:00pm
For Fiscal Year 2024: July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

And, to notify and warn said inhabitants to meet at the Lincoln Academy Cafeteria in said town on Tuesday June 20, 2023, then and there to act on Articles 3 through 29 as set out below, to wit:

Article 3: Shall the town utilize remote electronic keypad voting as the method of voting for all articles at this Town meeting, the June 20, 2023, Annual Town Meeting?

Passed as written.

Article 4: Shall the Town repeal the Town of Newcastle Parking Ordinance adopted June 7, 1989?

Yes – 1 No – 48 Article defeated.

Article 5: Shall the Town adopt the Town of Newcastle Traffic and Road's Ordinance as presented? For a digital copy, please visit the Town's website at newcastlemaine.us or visit Town Office for a paper copy.

Yes – 4 No – 41 Article defeated.

Article 6: Shall the Town raise & appropriate for Administration & Operations as follows:

Yes – 43 No – 11 Passed as written.

Admin & Operations		FY22 Actual	FY23 Budget	FY 24 Select Board
1	Select Board	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
2	Town Manager & Treasurer	65,091.94	70,200.00	90,000.00
3	Town Clerk, Registrar	56,004.70	56,650.00	55,000.00
4	Treasurer, Tax Collector	34,031.28	30,252.83	55,000.00
5	Election Workers	753.50	1,200.00	1,200.00
6	Full-Time Deputy	48,274.12	50,057.28	54,370.37
7	Harbormaster	0.00	3,000.00	3,500.00
8	Overtime Compensation	1,120.22	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Compensation Subtotal	220,275.76	227,360.11	275,070.37
9	FICA (SS &) Medicare	20,515.13	15,671.03	19,553.96
10	Health Insurance	74,375.11	80,662.72	96,243.71
12	Retirement	20,549.31	17,690.73	24,360.74
13	Vision / Dental / Life Insurance	1,617.95	1,000.00	4,932.00
14	Short Term Disability	2,043.31	2,000.00	2,000.00
	Fringe Benefits Subtotal	119,100.81	117,024.48	147,090.41
15	Property Casualty Liability Insurance	19,808.80	20,000.00	20,000.00
16	Unemployment	447.77	1,000.00	1,000.00
17	Workers Compensation	6,774.00	8,600.00	8,600.00
	Insurances Subtotal	27,030.57	29,600.00	29,600.00
18	Assessors Agent	19,250.00	25,200.00	25,200.00
19	Legal Fees	25,000.00	28,000.00	28,000.00
20	Payroll Company	2,470.75	2,400.00	2,400.00
21	Audit Services	9,000.00	9,000.00	10,500.00
	Contracted Service Subtotal	55,720.75	64,600.00	66,100.00
22	MMA Annual Dues	3,259.00	3,357.00	3,546.29
23	Postage & Envelopes	3200.05	5,000.00	5,000.00
24	Election Supplies	2534.37	2,400.00	2,500.00
25	Computer Support	6,576.86	7,000.00	7,000.00
26	Computer Hardware	6,271.34	750.00	1,000.00
27	Computer Software	34,367.85	33,000.00	34,000.00
28	Website	2,200.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
29	Tax Maps	3,600.00	3,800.00	3,800.00
30	Town Report	2597.00	2,500.00	2,600.00
31	Records Restoration	0.00	2,700.00	2,700.00
32	Advertising	1,956.64	2,000.00	2,000.00
33	Mileage	98.02	1,000.00	1,000.00
34	Professional Development & Fees	2,629.63	2,700.00	3,000.00
35	Video Recordings	0.00	4,200.00	4,200.00
36	Registry of Deeds Recordings & Printings	2,658.00	3,500.00	3,500.00
37	Office & Other Supplies	4,530.59	9,000.00	6,000.00

38	Copier/Printer Lease & Supplies	3,322.57	3,000.00	3,000.00
	Leases Subtotal	3,322.57	3,000.00	3,000.00
39	Town Office – Heating Fuel	473.02	1,000.00	1,500.00
40	Town Office – Electricity	2,457.77	2,100.00	2,500.00
41	Town Office – Water & Sewer	806.08	800.00	800.00
42	Town Office – Maintenance & Repairs	10,377.48	5,000.00	5,000.00
43	Town Office – Telephone	2,328.54	2,700.00	2,700.00
44	Town Office - Janitorial	2,156.00	4,300.00	4,300.00
	Town Office Building Subtotal	18,598.89	15,900.00	16,800.00
45	Harriet Bird Clubhouse – Heating Fuel	0.00	600.00	600.00
46	Harriet Bird Clubhouse – Electricity	272.21	300.00	400.00
47	Harriet Bird Clubhouse – Maintenance & Repairs	837.11	2,000.00	2,000.00
	Harriet Bird Clubhouse Subtotal	1,109.32	2,900.00	3,000.00
48	Cemeteries - Maintenance	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
49	Cemeteries - Mowing Contract	16,650.00	14,400.00	14,400.00
	Cemetery Maintenance Subtotal	16,650.00	17,400.00	17,400.00
50	Veteran's Park Maintenance	175.84	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Veteran's Park Subtotal	175.84	1,000.00	1,000.00
51	Contingency	0.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
52	Abatements	0.00	0.00	0.00
CATEGORY TOTAL		538,463.86	579,191.59	660,907.07

Article 7: Shall the Town raise & appropriate for the Public Services as follows:

Yes – 50 No -4 Passed as written.

Category: Public Services		FY22 Actual	FY23 Budget	FY 24 Select Board
1	Septic Waste Disposal	2,300.00	2,300.00	2,300.00
2	Solid Waste Disposal	111,019.50	119,325.15	125,315.55
	Waste Disposal Subtotal	113,319.50	121,625.15	127,615.55
3	General Assistance	1,740.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
	Services Subtotal	1,740.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
4	American Legion	450.00	450.00	450.00
5	CLC YMCA	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
6	Coastal Kids	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
7	Midcoast Conservancy	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
8	Ecumenical Food Pantry	500.00	500.00	500.00
9	Healthy Kids	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,700.00
10	LCTV	10,855.00	13,500.00	13,500.00
11	Maine Public Broadcasting	100.00	100.00	100.00
12	Midcoast ME Community Action	1,400.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
13	New Hope Midcoast	830.00	830.00	996.00
14	Skidompha Library	27,612.00	27,612.00	27,612.00
15	Spectrum Generations	1,756.00	1,756.00	1,756.00
16	Adult Education	9,635.00	6,595.39	8,811.00
	Provider Agency Subtotal	59,838.00	59,543.39	66,925.99
17	CEO/LPI Compensation	15,474.05	18,000.00	27,000.00
18	Planning Services	2,115.00	53,000.00	56,151.00
19	Harbor Master Cell Phone	0.00	500.00	500.00
20	Planning Board	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
21	Planning Consultation	0.00	0.00	10,000
22	Broadband Capacity	0.00	35,000.00	0.00
	Planning and Development Subtotal	17,589.05	109,500.00	96,651.00
CATEGORY TOTAL		192,486.55	293,668.54	294,192.54

Article 8: Shall the Town raise & appropriate for Public Safety as follows:

Yes – 44

No – 6

Passed as written.

Category: Public Safety		FY22 Actual	FY23 Budget	FY 24 Select Board
1	Fire Chief	12,335.24	12,000.00	12,000.00
2	Fire Department Officers	5,050.00	16,350.00	16,350.00
3	Firefighters	11,686.21	16,000.00	16,000.00
	Compensation Subtotal	29,071.45	44,350.00	44,350.00
4	Phones	1337.36	2,520.00	1,500.00
5	Dues	0.00	0.00	700.00
6	S.C.B.A	5,911.57	7,282.00	8,000.00
7	Communications	1020.28	7,500.00	7,500.00
8	Training	240.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
10	New Equipment	3,214.64	6,600.00	10,000.00
11	Equipment & Vehicle Maintenance	15,646.80	12,550.00	15,690.00
12	PPE - Turn Out Gear	9,663.62	10,960.00	12,600.00
13	Hose Replacement	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
14	Administration & Office Supplies	4,333.42	4,000.00	4,000.00
15	Vehicles Gas & Oil	3,581.63	6,600.00	5,500.00
	Fire Department Subtotal	44,949.32	62,012.00	74,490.00
15	Animal Control Services	1,977.68	3,000.00	3,500.00
16	Lincoln County Animal Shelter	2,540.40	2,540.40	2,679.60
17	Wild Animal Control Officer	190.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Animal Control Services	4,708.08	6,540.40	7,179.60
18	Emergency Medical Services	30,398.77	82,702.86	74,241.09
19	EMA Director	850.00	850.00	850.00
20	Health Officer	100.00	100.00	100.00
	Emergency/Health Services	31,348.77	83,652.86	75,191.09
21	Hydrants	45,221.02	51,000.00	51,000.00
22	Street Lights	2,877.24	4,000.00	2,000.00
23	Traffic Lights	271.14	400.00	400.00
	Infrastructure Subtotal	48,369.40	55,400.00	53,400.00
24	Fire Station – Heating Fuel	5,710.84	7,000.00	6,000.00
25	Fire Station – Electricity	1,972.02	3,000.00	4,000.00
26	Fire Station – Water & Sewer	806.08	800.00	800.00
27	Fire Station – Maintenance & Repairs	3,268.31	4,000.00	7,000.00
28	Fire Station - Janitorial	1071.00	1,500.00	2,000.00
	Fire Station Subtotal	12,828.25	16,300.00	19,800.00
29	Sheepsfoot Fire Station – Heating Fuel	1184.21	1,000.00	1,000.00
30	Sheepsfoot Fire Station – Electricity	274.73	300.00	400.00
31	Sheepsfoot Fire Station – Maintenance & Repairs	301.19	1,000.00	1,500.00
	Sheepsfoot Station Subtotal	1,760.13	2,300.00	2,900.00
CATEGORY TOTAL		173,035.40	270,555.26	277,310.69

Article 9: Shall the Town raise & appropriate for Public Works as follows:

Yes – 39

No – 7

Passed as written.

Category: Public Works		FY22 Actual	FY23 Budget	FY 24 Select Board
1	Road Commissioner	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Technical Assistance	0.00	30,000.00	10,000.00
	Operations Subtotal	0.00	30,000.00	10,000.00
3	Electricity - Sand/Salt Shed	299.81	600.00	600.00
4	Maintenance - Sand/Salt Shed	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
5	Maintenance - Public Landing	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Facilities Subtotal	299.81	5,600.00	5,600.00
6	Roads - Snow Removal	277,530.78	277,311.00	280,505.00
7	Main Street & Downtown – Snow Removal	45,219.56	52,144.00	52,144.00
8	Permits - Snow Removal	2,500.00	4,500.00	4,500.00
9	Miscellaneous Winter Operations	125.00	2,000.00	3,500.00
10	Winter Salt	69,835.45	88,000.00	88,000.00
	Winter Operations Subtotal	395,210.79	423,955.00	428,649.00
11	Cold Patch	1,190.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
12	Gravel - Grading	22,000.00	28,800.00	35,700.00
13	Grading	38,050.00	42,000.00	43,600.00
14	Roadside Mowing	9,145.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
15	Catch Basin Cleaning	0.00	7,000.00	5,000.00
16	Catch Basin Repair	0.00	0.00	0.00
17	Catch Basin Replacement	0.00	0.00	0.00
18	Line Striping	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
19	Street Sweeping	0.00	7,000.00	7,500.00
20	Tree Work	15,306.10	25,000.00	30,000.00
21	Crack Filling	3,620.00	7,850.00	10,000.00
22	Bridge Maintenance	0.00	0.00	20,000.00
	Annual Operations Subtotal	89,311.10	134,650.00	168,800.00
22	Labor	4,877.30	6,500.00	9,750.00
23	Equipment	15,645.00	8,000.00	9,600.00
24	Culverts	15,213.10	23,100.00	10,000.00
25	Material	0.00	12,500.00	13,000.00
	General Contractor Subtotal	35,735.40	50,100.00	42,350.00
26	Traffic Control Equipment	1,720.50	1,000.00	1,000.00
27	Street Signs	3,483.23	4,000.00	4,000.00
28	Traffic Signs	2,326.77	1,000.00	1,000.00
29	Miscellaneous Signage	895.68	1,000.00	1,000.00
	Equipment Subtotal	8,426.18	7,000.00	7,000.00
CATEGORY TOTAL		528,983.28	651,305.00	662,399.00

Article 10: Shall the Town raise & appropriate for Reserve Accounts as follows:

Yes – 48

No – 2

Passed as written.

Category: Reserves		FY22 Actual	FY23 Budget	FY 24 Select Board
1	Harriet Bird Clubhouse	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
2	Veteran's Park	1,250.00	250.00	250.00
3	Highway Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Roads Capital Projects	686,734.00	855,530.00	855,530.00
5	Computer Reserve	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
6	Municipal Building Reserve	75,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00
7	Revaluation Reserve	20,000.00	15,000.00	12,500.00
8	Alewife Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Fringe Benefit Reserve	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
10	Firetruck Reserve		50,000.00	50,000.00
11	Village Partnership Initiative		0.00	0.00
12	Harbor Management Reserve	0.00	0.00	0.00
CATEGORY TOTAL		799,484.00	987,280.00	984,780.00

Article 11: Shall the Town raise & appropriate for Debt Service as follows:

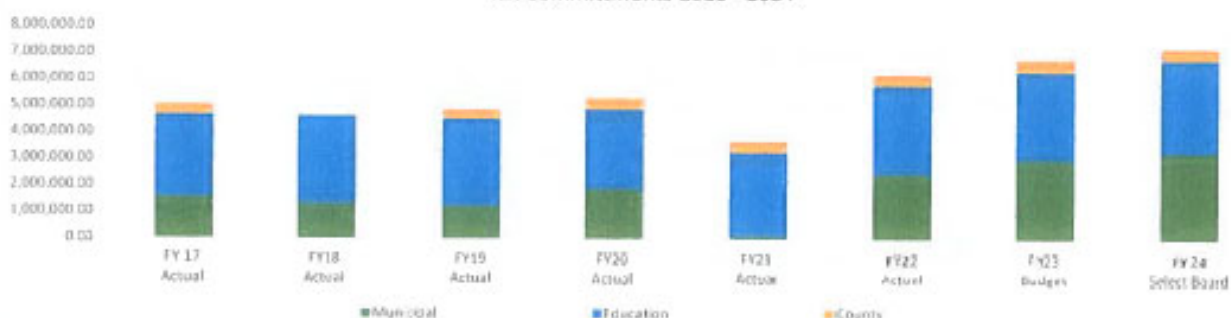
Yes – 49

No – 2

Passed as written.

Category: Debt Service		FY22 Actual	FY23 Budget	FY 24 Select Board
1	Loan Payment – Lynch Road	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Loan Payment – Fire Truck	29,339.96	27,084.00	27,084.00
3	Loan Payment - Town Office	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Loan Payment - AH Road	228,540.45	243,422.57	226,633.07
CATEGORY TOTAL		257,880.41	270,506.57	253,717.07

Tax Commitments 2018 - 2024



Article 12: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to accept prospective gifts and donations providing the Board place these funds in appropriately designated reserve accounts and only used for the intended purposes stated or in the best interest of the Town?

Yes – 40 No - 0 Passed as written.

Article 13: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to accept and expend, on behalf of the Town any State and Federal funds which may be received from time to time in the form of grants and funds from any source deemed appropriate by the municipal officers during the period of July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, or act on anything relative thereto?

Yes – 38 No – 0 Passed as written.

Article 14: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the town for non-payment of the taxes thereon and to execute quitclaim deeds for said property, in accordance with appropriate state law and procedures?

Yes – 45 No – 0 Passed as written.

Article 15: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any surplus equipment owned by the Town in accordance with appropriate State law and procedures?

Yes – 45 No -0 Passed as written.

Article 16: Shall the Town direct the Select Board to establish the dates on which this year's taxes shall be due and payable?

Yes – 47 No – 0 Passed as written.

Article 17: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to fund abatements by expending overlay, and in the event the overlay is depleted, authorize funding abatements through the unassigned fund balance?

Yes – 44 No – 3 Passed as written.

Article 18: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to enter into multi-year contracts on behalf of the Town?

Yes – 43 No – 5 Passed as written.

Article 19: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to carry unexpended funds forward to the next fiscal year within the existing budget line items?

Yes – 45 No – 2 Passed as written.

Article 20: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to establish and appoint the members of standing and/or ad hoc committees of the Select Board to advise the Board regarding the administration and operations of the town government?

Yes – 41 No – 5 Passed as written.

Article 21: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to reduce the total amount of taxes to be collected by the FY 2024 total amount of estimated revenue (TBD) including use of surplus?

Yes – 47 No – 2 Passed as written.

Article 22: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Treasurer to waive the foreclosure of tax lien mortgages pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A § 944 upon a finding by the Select Board that ownership of the property that is subject to the tax lien mortgage would be contrary to the Town's best interests.

Yes – 40 No – 1 Passed as written.

Article 23: Shall the Town instruct the Tax Collector to charge interest at the rate of 6% per annum on all uncollected taxes and authorize the Select Board to establish the date on which interest starts to accrue, except for those taxpayers enrolled in the tax club before June 1, 2023, and have made all payments on time and to date?

Yes – 47 No – 3 Passed as written.

Article 24: Shall the Town vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayments on taxes not yet committed, and to pay interest at a rate of 0% (zero percent) as a courtesy to taxpayers who wish to pay some or all of their uncommitted taxes?

Yes – 49 No – 1 Passed as written.

Article 25: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to expend funds from any Town Reserve account for an unbudgeted major expense: (Note: "major" is defined as any cost not included in a corresponding operating budget)?

Yes – 46 No – 3 Passed as written.

Article 26: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to transfer an amount not to exceed 2% of the total annual budget request from one category to another without prior approval of a special town meeting?

Yes – 44 No – 2 Passed as written.

Article 27: Shall the Town authorize the Select Board to regulate river herring fishing in all streams in which the Town has an interest in accordance with the plan filed with and approved by the Commissioner of Marine Resources?

Yes – 47 No – 0 Passed as written.

Article 28: Shall the Town authorize a transfer of \$50,000 from its undesignated fund balance to the village partnership initiative reserve account?

Yes – 44 No – 6 Passed as written.

Article 29: Shall the Town authorize the previously allocated \$35,000 from FY 2023 for Broadband Expansion to be carried forward to expend in FY 2024?

Yes – 40 No – 3 Passed as written.

Minutes Transcribed by Lauren Allen