



**TOWN MEETING WARRANT
TOWN OF CLINTON
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2020**

TO: Frank Gioffre, a resident of the Town of Clinton, County of Kennebec, and State of Maine

Greetings: In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Clinton in said county and state, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to vote in the Town of Clinton, at the Clinton Town Office located at 27 Baker Street, open Tuesday, the 14th day of July, AD 2020 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. then and there to act upon the following articles to wit:

DEPARTMENTAL EXPENSE BUDGET

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 345,108 for the Administration Budget.

Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

** Administration is for the operation of Town Office services, i.e. Vehicle Registrations, Licenses, Assessing Services and property tax collection, vital statistics and Town Clerk Services.*

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 16,203 for the Town Hall Budget.

Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

Funding for Town Hall maintenance projects

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 34,998 for the Technology Budget.

Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

** Funding for support of all town owned computers, Trio Software, Firewall, Cloud storage, Copier Lease, Maintenance Agreements, and Email licenses.*

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 401,366 for the Fire & Rescue Department Budget.

Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

**Funding provides maintenance and operations for the Fire/EMS services with 3 Full-time employees and (36) Part-time reserve officers and 2 ambulances.*

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 348,000 for the Winter Road Maintenance Budget.

Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

**Funding provides for the snow removal & ice control contract with Nitram Excavation, and salt, sand and liquid calcium for winter roads.*

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 320,460 for the Police Department Budget

Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

Funding covers operations of 20 hours per day local coverage with 3 Full-time Officers and 5 Reserve Officers.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 168,233 for the Highway Maintenance Budget.

Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

**Funding provides general maintenance to existing roads, pot hole repair, gravel replacements, culverts, ditching, and brush/tree cutting.*



**TOWN MEETING WARRANT
TOWN OF CLINTON
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2020**

- Article 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ **58,855** for the Code Enforcement Budget.
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes
**Funding for state law required position for Part-time Code Enforcement, Facility Maintenance Supervisor, Building/Plumbing Inspector, and Health Officer.*
- Article 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ **76,774** for the Brown Memorial Library Budget.
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes
**Funding provides for general operating expense of the Library, i.e. personnel, books and general maintenance.*
- Article 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ **287,027** for the Transfer Station Budget.
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes
**Funding allows residents of Benton (45%) and Clinton (55%) to dispose of household trash and recycling at no fee.*
- Article 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ **20,850** for the Non-Profit Organizations.
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes
**Funding for non-profit charitable organizations that demonstrate services for residents, i.e. transportation, food, hospice care, athletic programs for youth, snowmobile club, and cemetery flags for veterans.*
- Article 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ **259,849** for the Debt Service Budget.
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes
Services debt for fire truck, cruisers, SCBA's, and road bond.
- Article 15:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ **13,950** for the Parks & Recreation Budget.
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes
Funding for maintenance on Old Mill Park and Cindy Blodgett Park as well as recreational activities guided by a Recreation Director and committee members.
- Article 16:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ **16,871** for the General Assistance Budget.
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes
**Funding allows the town to assist residents in emergency situations for basic needs per the State's Ordinance & Guidelines adopted by the Board of Selectmen in October of each year. State reimburses Town 75% of program cost.*
- Article 17:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ **62,058** for Emergency Management/Communications.
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes
**Funding provides for state mandated contractual services for Emergency Communicaions and a stipend position for EMA Director*



**TOWN MEETING WARRANT
TOWN OF CLINTON
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2020**

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ **123,985** for the Insurance Budget.

Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

**Funding for Worker's Compensation, Unemployment, Property & Casualty, Vehicle and General Liability Insurance.*

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ **8,558** for Municipal Cemeteries Budget.

Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

**Funding for repair and maintenance of town owned cemeteries.*

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ **10,568** for Elections Budget.

Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

**Funding for printing ballots and the annual report, pays ballot clerks, public notices, and other expenses associated with elections.*

Article 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ **200,000** for Road Paving Budget.

Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

**Funding provides for Spring 2021 Paving on Horseback Road, Dixon Road, Beaudoin Road and Pishon Ferry Road.*

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ **109,386** for the Town Services Budget.

Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

** This budget combines Street Lights, Hydrants, Animal Control Services, and mowing contract.*

Total Amount of Departmental Budgets: \$ 2,883,098

REVENUE BUDGET

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to collect and allocate the sum of \$ **1,731,260** in anticipated revenues to reduce the amount to be raised by taxation.

Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

Net Amount to be Raised by Taxation: \$ 1,151,838

AUTHORIZING TRANSFERS FROM UNDESIGNATED SURPLUS

ARTICLES LISTED BELOW DO NOT AFFECT YOUR CURRENT OR FUTURE TAX BILLS - These amounts are transfers from the town's undesignated surplus account.

Article 24: To See if the Town will vote to transfer from Undesignated Surplus \$ **10,000** to Fire Department Equipment Reserve. (2-500-01)
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes *This Reserve will be used for Fire & Rescue Vehicles*

Article 25: To See if the Town will vote to transfer from Undesignated Surplus \$ **7,865** to Fire Department Equipment Reserve. (2-500-36)
Selectmen Recommend: Yes *This Reserve is for match amount for Radio Replacement Grant*

Article 26: To See if the Town will vote to transfer from Undesignated Surplus \$ **38,000** to Police Equipment Reserve. (2-500-03)
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes *Purchase price of a cruiser in Autumn 2020*



**TOWN MEETING WARRANT
TOWN OF CLINTON
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2020**

Article 27: To See if the Town will vote to transfer from Undesignated Surplus
Selectmen Recommend: Yes

\$ **35,187** to Transfer Station Equipment Reserve (2-500-04)
Reserve Balance of \$50,000 for purchase of used backhoe

Article 28: To See if the Town will vote to transfer from Undesignated Surplus
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

\$ **3,000** to Parks & Recreation Reserve. (2-500-14)
\$3,000 for PAL Ballfields

Article 29: To See if the Town will vote to transfer from Undesignated Surplus
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

\$ **15,000** to the Town Facility Maintenance Reserve (2-500-11)
Reserve balance of \$17,136 for Banquet Hall Update & Fire Dept. Ceiling

Article 30: To See if the Town will vote to transfer from Undesignated Surplus
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

\$ **60,000** to True Road Reserve (2-500-12)
Account balance of \$75,000 for replacement of culvert

Article 31: To See if the Town will vote to transfer from Undesignated Surplus
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

\$ **50,000** to LED Streetlight Conversion Reserve
To convert 107 street lights to LED - a cost efficient improvement

Article 32: To See if the Town will vote to transfer from Undesignated Surplus
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

\$ **11,000** To Horseback Road Guardrail Project
To install guardrail on Horseback Road

Article 33: To See if the Town will vote to transfer from Undesignated Surplus
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

\$ **200,000** to the Revaluation Reserve
For the purpose of funding a comprehensive revaluation of taxable property pursuant to Title 30-A M.R.S. Section 5772 (7).

The Maine Constitution mandates municipalities to conduct a Revaluation once in ten (10) years - Article IX, Section 7. M.R.S. Title 30-A, Section 5722, Para. 7 mandates municipalities to "provide for the revaluation of taxable property". Voter reluctance to pass this article in years past is now seriously depriving residents of individual tax relief provided by the State. The Homestead Exemption for this year is \$25,000 but Clinton residents will only be allowed to use a \$20,000 exemption and will be required to pay tax on the other \$5,000 because the State of Maine values Clinton at 80% - not 100%. Taxpayers also pick up a larger portion of tax because the State reduces the funding formulas for Maine Revenue, Veteran's reimbursement, and Tree Growth. Since these State revenues are used for tax relief the amount of the State reduction is put back on the taxpayers through the mil rate. The formula for the school budget suffers the same fate. Whatever amount the State reduces the school budget formula because Clinton does not have a Revaluation comes back to the taxpayer through an increased mil rate. So, bottom line is until voters approve an article for the transfer of funds from Undesignated Surplus for the purpose of a long over due (16 years) comprehensive Revaluation - EVERY ONE IS PAYING MORE PROPERTY TAX THAN THEY SHOULD!

Total Amount of Reserve Account Transfers from Undesignated Surplus: \$ 430,051.99

5 YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Article 34: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Undesignated Surplus
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

\$ **25,000** to Fire & Rescue Department Equipment Reserve. (2-500-01)
Funding for Replacement of Engine 3

Article 35: To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Undesignated Surplus
Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommend: Yes

\$ **5,000** to Town Hall Reserve Account (2-550-11)
Funding for future maintenance of 27 Baker Street

Total Amount of Year 2 Funding of 5 Yr Capital Improvement: \$ 30,000

