

Articles of Warrant

Greetings, in the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Starks; qualified to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Starks Community Center, 57 Anson Road, in the said Town of Starks on Friday, March 8th, 2019, from noon until 8pm. The Annual Town Meeting will be held the following day, Saturday, March 9th, 2019 beginning at 9 am at the Starks Community Center, 57 Anson Road in said Town of Starks.

Article #1

To choose a moderator to preside over said meeting.

Article #2

To choose by Australian ballot all Town Officers for the current year.

Article #3

To see if the Town will vote to apply available excise taxes, interest, and lien charges toward the 2019 budget.

Article #4

To elect five budget committee members from the floor.

Article #5

To see if the Town will authorize the Municipal Officers to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the annual budget in each budget category of the 2019 annual budget during the period from January 1st, 2019 to the 2019 Annual Town Meeting.

Article #6

To see if the Town will vote to make taxes due and payable upon the date of commitment.

Article #7

To set the rate of interest to be charged on unpaid taxes, after the date set in the preceding article. Interest rate cannot exceed 8.00%, to accrue beginning 60 days from the date of commitment.

Explanation: 2018 interest rate on unpaid taxes @8.00%

Article #8

To see if the Town will authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of 2019 taxes from January 1st, 2019 to the 2019 date of commitment.

Article #9

To see if the Town, in accordance with T. 36 M.R.S. § 506, will vote that if a taxpayer pays an amount in excess of their final assessment it shall be refunded in the amount of the overpayment.

Article #10

To see if the Town will authorize the selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any real-estate acquired by the Town for nonpayment of taxes; to thereon advertise and accept sealed bids only; and to execute the appropriate deeds for such property. Except that the Municipal Officers shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. § 943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s).

Article #11

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the selectmen to apply for a tax anticipation note, but only if necessary for operating expenses.

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget committee.

Article #12

To see if the Town will vote to apply lien cost revenue to the lien cost expense account.

Article #13

To see if the Town will vote to apply overlay to cover abatements.

Article #14

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$3,000** to pay for **unanticipated expenses** and emergencies.

Article #15

To see if the Town will vote to apply all revenues from Community Center donations and any lease revenue from the former Town Office to the Building Improvement Fund.

Article #16

To see if the Town will vote to apply all revenues from the sale of tax acquired property to lower the commitment.

Article #17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$98,166** for **General Administration** and additional administrative expenses in the current year.

Description	Taxation/Requested
Payroll Taxes	\$12,000
Workman's Compensation	\$6,566
Mileage	\$1,500
Training Workshops	\$800
Unemployment	\$100
Annual Drug Testing Fee	\$350
Postage	\$2,000
Dues	\$3,000
Miscellaneous	\$4,000
Audit	\$5,350
Trio Renewal/Upgrades	\$8,000
Legal	\$8,000
Town Report	\$1,030
Ads	\$500
Xerox Lease	\$1,620
Water Rent	4,000
KVRWC	\$8,100
Large Item Drop Off	\$8,500
Cemetery Maintenance	\$1,750
MMA Insurance	\$21,000
Total	\$98,166

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Explanation: Increase to Large Item is to account for a twice annual drop off in the spring and fall.

Article #18

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation **\$3,500** for **Former Town Hall** operating expenses at the 10 Locke Hill Road building in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Former Town Hall Building	\$3,000	\$3,500

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation **\$7,000** for the **Legal Expenses** of Code Enforcement in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
CEO/Legal	\$7,000	\$7,000

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #20

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation for **Salaries** in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Assessor Chair	\$3,250	\$3,250
Assessor	\$2,750	\$2,750
Assessor	\$2,750	\$2,750
Selectman Chair	\$3,000	\$3,000
Selectman	\$3,000	\$3,000
Selectman	\$3,000	\$3,000
Town Clerk	\$8,500	\$8,500
Tax Collector	\$12,000	\$12,000
Treasurer	\$8,500	\$8,500
Building Superintendent	\$6,000	\$6,000
Health Officer	\$1,800	\$1,800
Sexton	\$2,500	\$100
GA Overseer	\$500	\$500
CEO	\$3,000	\$3,000
Deputy-Clerk TC & Treas.	\$3,000	\$3,000
Elections	\$4,500	\$4,500
Total	\$66,550	\$65,650

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$1,000** for the **Appeals Board** and **Planning Board** in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Planning & Appeals Boards	\$1,000	\$1,000

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #22

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$500** for the **Training** of an incoming elected official by the outgoing officer. This applies only to Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Treasurer's positions.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Training of Officers	\$500	\$500

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #23

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$7,500** for a **Road Foreman Stipend** payable at the discretion of the Selectmen.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Road Foreman Stipend	\$7,500	\$7,500

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #24

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$18,000** for the **Community Center** in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Community Center Operating Expenses	\$17,500	18,000

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #25

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$45,300** for the **Fire Department** in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Fire Department	\$41,000	\$45,300

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #26

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Fire Chief's Salary** in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Fire Chief	\$4,000	\$4,000

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #27

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$1,000** for the **Animal Control Officer** and expenses for the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Animal Control	\$1,000	\$1,000

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #28

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$12,160** for the Anson Madison Starks **Ambulance Service** in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
AMS Ambulance	\$11,000	\$12,160

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #29

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$1,500** for the Town's **Street Lights** in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Street Lights	\$1,400	\$1,500

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #30

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$46,000** for **Equipment Maintenance** in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Equipment	\$45,500	\$46,000

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #31

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$9,000** for the **Town Garage** in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Garage	\$9,000	\$9,000

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #32

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$72,500** for **Summer Roads Maintenance** in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Summer Roads Maintenance	\$63,500	\$72,500

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #33

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$62,000** for **Winter Roads** in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Winter Roads	\$55,000	\$62,000

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #34

To see if the Town will vote to raise from taxation **\$5,000** and appropriate **\$4,157.71** from FEMA for the purchase of a **Commercial Generator** to be housed between the Town Garage and Fire Department buildings.

Funding Source	Total
Taxation (in lieu of FD Capital Reserve)	\$5,000
2018 FEMA Reimbursement	\$4,157.71
Public Works Budget	\$1,168.29
Total	\$10,326

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #35

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$300** for the maintenance of the Starks **Town Dump** in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation Requested
Town Dump	\$300	\$300

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #36

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$4,000** for **General Assistance**, and to apply all GA reimbursements from the State to the GA account.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
General Assistance	\$4,000	\$4,000
GA Reimbursements 2018	\$2,485.98	

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #37

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$2,000** for **Rec Sports** and **Library Membership** reimbursements in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Rec Sports/Library Reimbursements	\$2,000	\$2,000

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #38

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$9,787** for the **Debt Service** on the **Salt Shed Bond** in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Salt Shed	\$9,787	\$9,787

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Explanation: Sand & Salt Shed bond pay off date: January 15th 2029

Article #39

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$31,109** for **Debt Service** on the **River Road Bond** in the current year.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
River Road Bond	\$31,109	\$31,109

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Explanation: River Road bond payoff date: November 1st 2019

Article #40

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$5,000** for **First Park** in the current year.

Description	2018 Revenue	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
First Park	\$1,995	\$4,500	\$5,000

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #41

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation **\$5,000** for **Social Organizations** in the current year.

Organization	Taxation/Recommended
Starks Food Cupboard	\$900
Franklin County Animal Shelter	\$1,408
Family Violence	\$250
Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$542
Memorial Day Fund	\$100
Maine Public Broadcasting Network	\$200
KVCAP	\$250
Farmington Sexual Assault and Prevention	\$250
Hospice Volunteers	\$500
East Parish Housing Ministry	\$500
American Red Cross	\$100
Total	\$5,000

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #42

To see if the Town will vote to forward the snowmobile reimbursement from the State of Maine, to the Anson-North Anson Snowmobile Club for maintaining the trails in Starks.

Explanation: Snowmobile Refund for Received January 2019 \$331

Article #43

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from **LRAP** up to **\$135,000** to pave the upper section of Chicken Street.

Description	Total
Chicken Street Paving	\$135,000
2019 Anticipated LRAP Balance	\$135,066.43

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Article #44

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$20,000** for the **Capital Improvement Fund**.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Capital Improvements	\$5,000	\$20,000

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Capital Improvement Account Balance December 31st, 2018 \$38,036.21

Article #45

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to use the balance of the Capital Improvement Fund for the purchase of an additional truck(s) with any proceeds from the sale of older trucks to returned to the Capital Improvement Fund.

Information: 2019 Cap. Imp. Balance if article 44 (above) passes will be \$58,036.21

Article #46

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$15,000** to **Building Improvement Fund (BIF)**.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Building Improvement Fund	\$5,000	\$15,000

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Explanation: Building Improvement Fund Balance December 31st, 2018 \$32,415.65

Article #47

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from taxation, **\$5,000** for the **Capital Roads account**.

Description	2018 Budget	Taxation/Requested
Capital Roads	\$20,000	\$5,000

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Explanation: Capital Roads Account Balance December 31st, 2018 \$35,000

Article #48

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from **undesignated funds \$28,040.78** to lower the tax commitment. Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee.

The amount requested in this article represents all the remaining balances from Articles 1-62 at the 2018 Annual Town Meeting, and can be found in detail on the Treasurers Expense Report toward the front of this book.

Explanation: (Surplus) Undesignated Fund Balance December 31st, 2018 \$308,881.00

Article #49

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate up to **\$3,000** from the **Building Improvement Fund** for analysis of the estimated remaining life and efficiency of the Community Center's heating system.

Funding Source	Requested
Building Improvement Fund	\$3,000

Recommended by Selectmen and Budget Committee

Explanation: Building Improvement Fund Balance December 31st, 2018 \$32,415.65

Article #50

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following gifts grants and funds listed below as provided by the Maine State Legislature and any other sources and apply the funds to lower the commitment or benefit the town in such other ways as the Selectmen deem reasonable.

Maine Municipal Revenue Sharing
State Aid to Education (including federal pass through funds and property tax relief)
Public Library State Aid
Tree Growth Reimbursements
General Assistance Funds
Veterans Exemption Funds
Homestead Exemption Funds
FEMA Reimbursements
Civil Emergency Funds (Emergency Management Assistance)
State and Federal Grants
Any Other Funds or Gifts

Article #51

To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Starks by State law to the extent statutorily allowed in the event the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles resulted in a tax commitment that is greater than the so-called LD 1 property tax levy limit.

Article #52

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to dispose of assets with an estimated value of \$500 or less without having to place legal ads, the details of these assets to be emailed to an available email list and posted inside and outside the Town Office for bids. This does not include tax acquired property.

Article #53

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to investigate the use of various town properties for generation of electric power using photovoltaic equipment.

Article #54

To see if the Town will vote to close the books on December 31, 2019.

Article #55

To see if the Town wishes to hold the next Annual Town Meeting on March 8th and 9th 2019.

Given under our hands at the Starks Town Office this 19th day of February 2019

Paul Frederic, Selectman Chair

Joseph Hayden, Selectman

Ernest Hilton, Selectman

A true copy of the warrant

Attest:

Jennifer A Zweig Hebert, Clerk of Starks

Warrant Officer's Return:

By virtue of the herein warrant to me directed, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Starks to be assembled at the time and place, and for the purpose therein named by posting attested copies of the warrant in five (5) conspicuous places within said town, the 20th day of February, 2019. The Starks Town Office inside and out, the Town Garage, the Starks Food Cupboard and Steve's Garage.

Jerry Brackett, Warrant Officer