

**TOWN WARRANT  
STATE OF MAINE  
TOWN OF LIBERTY**

**To:** Hanna Hatfield, Resident of the Town of Liberty, in the County of Waldo, and the State of Maine.

**Greetings:** In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Liberty in said county and state, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the **Liberty Community Hall, 3 Serenity Lane**, off Pinnacle Rd. in said Town, on **Saturday, the 19th day of March, 2016** at **9:00 a.m.** in the forenoon, then and there to act on the following articles to wit:

**ARTICLES:**

**ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICIALS**

1. To elect by written ballot a moderator to preside at said meeting.
2. To establish town office hours as follows:
  - Monday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
  - Tuesday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
  - Thursday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
  - Saturday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
3. To elect the following positions:
  1. Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Town Agent; (one year)
  2. Treasurer; (one year)
  3. Fire Chief; (one year)
  4. Road Commissioner (one year)
4. To elect a First Selectman to serve on the Board of Selectmen, Board of Assessors and Overseers of the Poor for a three-year term. Steve Chapin has stated he is not running for re-election.
5. To elect a Budget Committee not to exceed 7 members to assist the Selectmen by meeting periodically with the Board of Selectmen and Treasurer to review financial accounts of the Town and assisting in budgeting town funds.
 

Selectmen Recommendation: Elect current board with replacements.
6. To fix compensation, from taxation, for the following positions:

<b>Position</b>	<b>Selectmen Recommendation</b>	<b>Budget Committee Recommendation</b>
Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Town Agent	26,000.00	26,000.00
Town Administrator	15,000.00	10,000.00
First Selectman	9,000.00	9,000.00
Second Selectman	8,000.00	8,000.00
Third Selectman	7,000.00	7,000.00
Treasurer	6,500.00	6,500.00
Code Enforcement Officer	5,250.00	5,250.00
Fire Chief	6,500.00	6,500.00
Road Commissioner	6,500.00	6,500.00
Animal Control Officer	2,800.00	2,800.00

Registrar of Voters	850.00	850.00
Tax Map Coordinator	800.00	800.00
Plumbing Inspector	500.00	500.00
Emergency Management Director	525.00	525.00
E911 Addressing Officer	500.00	500.00
<b>Totals</b>	95,725.00	90,725.00

## ORDINANCES

### 7. To see of the Town will adopt a “Local Food and Community Self-Governance Ordinance”

TOWN OF LIBERTY, WALDO COUNTY, MAINE

LOCAL FOOD AND COMMUNITY SELF-GOVERNANCE ORDINANCE (LFCSGO)

SECTION 1. NAME. This Ordinance shall be known as, and may be cited as, the “Local Food and Community Self-Governance Ordinance.”

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS. As used in this ordinance:

1. LOCAL FOOD. “Local Food” means any food, food product, or drink that is grown, produced, or processed by Producers or Processors, as herein defined, who sell directly to their Patrons through farm- or home-based sales or buying clubs, at roadside stands, fundraisers, or at community social events.
2. PRODUCER. “Producer” means any farmer or gardener who grows any plant for food or drink or raises any animal for food or drink.
3. PROCESSOR. “Processor” means any individual who processes or prepares local food in a private home kitchen.
4. PATRON. “Patron” means, with regard to a local foods, the last person who:
  - a. Purchases for home consumption or consumes the local food;
  - b. Does not resell the local food; and
  - c. Has been informed that the local food was produced in an uninspected, unlicensed establishment and that the local food has not been inspected.
5. COMMUNITY SOCIAL EVENT. “Community social event” means an event where people gather as part of a community for the benefit of those gathering or for the community, including but not limited to a church or religious social, school event, potluck, neighborhood gathering, library meeting, traveling food sale, fundraiser, craft fair, and other public event.
6. FOODWAYS. “Foodways” are the cultural, social, and economic practices relating to the production and consumption of food.
7. HOME CONSUMPTION. “Home consumption” means consumed within a private home.

SECTION 3. PREAMBLE AND PURPOSE. We the People of the Town of Liberty, County of Waldo, Maine have the right to produce, process, sell, purchase, and consume local foods, thus promoting self-reliance, the preservation of family farms, ecologically sound farming practices, and local food traditions. We recognize that environmentally sustainable family farms, and local food processing by individuals and families offer stability to our rural way of life by enhancing the economic, environmental, and social wealth of our community. As such, our right to a local food system requires us to assert our inherent right to self-government. We recognize the authority to protect that right as belonging to the Town of Liberty. We have faith in our citizens’ ability to educate themselves and make informed decisions. We hold that federal and state regulations impede local food production and constitute a usurpation of our citizens’ right to foods of their choice. We support wholesome food that nourishes individuals and the community, sustains producers and processors, and respects the environment. We are therefore duty bound under the Constitution of the State of Maine to protect and promote unimpeded access to local foods.

The purpose of the Local Food and Community Self-Governance Ordinance is to:

1. Provide citizens with unimpeded access to local food;
2. Enhance the local economy by promoting the purchase of farm food products and homemade food;
3. Protect access to farm-based sales and direct producer/processor to patron sales;
4. Support the economic viability of producers and processors;

5. Preserve community social events where local foods are served or sold; and
6. Preserve local knowledge and traditional foodways.

SECTION 4. AUTHORITY. This Ordinance is adopted and enacted pursuant to the inherent, inalienable, and fundamental right of the citizens of the Town of Liberty to self-government, and under the authority recognized as belonging to the people of the Town by all relevant state and federal laws including, but not limited to the following:

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, which declares that governments are instituted to secure peoples' rights, and that government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF MAINE, ARTICLE I, SECTION 2, which declares: "All power is inherent in the people; all free governments are founded in their authority and instituted for their benefit; they have therefore an unalienable and indefeasible right to institute government, and to alter, reform, or totally change the same, when their safety and happiness require it."

MAINE REVISED STATUTES, TITLE 7, SECTION 1-A, which states: "The survival of the family farm is of special concern to the people of the State, and the ability of the family farm to prosper, while producing an abundance of high quality food and fiber, deserves a place of high priority in the determination of public policy."

MAINE REVISED STATUTES, TITLE 7-A, SECTION 201-A, which states that it is the policy of this State to encourage food self-sufficiency for its citizens. The Department Of Agriculture, Conservation And Forestry shall support policies that:

1. Through local control, preserve the ability of communities to produce, process, sell, purchase and consume locally produced foods;
2. Ensure the preservation of family farms and traditional foodways through small-scale farming and food production;
3. Improve the health and well-being of citizens of this State by reducing hunger and increasing food security through improved access to wholesome, nutritious foods by supporting family farms and encouraging sustainable farming and fishing;
4. Promote self-reliance and personal responsibility by ensuring the ability of individuals, families and other entities to prepare, process, advertise and sell foods directly to patrons intended solely for consumption by the patrons or their families; and
5. Enhance rural economic development and the environmental and social wealth of rural communities.

MAINE REVISED STATUTES, TITLE 30-A, SECTION 3001, which says that municipalities may enact ordinances to protect the welfare of their inhabitants and that there is a rebuttable presumption that any ordinance enacted under this section is a valid exercise of a municipality's home rule authority.

SECTION 5.1. LICENSURE/INSPECTION. Producers and processors in the Town of Liberty are not subject to licensure or inspection provided:

- a) Transactions are only between producers or processors and patrons. This includes sales that: 1) are made directly to a patron and 2) occur on the farm where the farm food product originated, at the home where the homemade food was produced, or at the home of the Patron.
- b) Products are prepared for, consumed, or sold at a community social event.
- c) Patrons understand that the product is not manufactured under license from or inspected by any governmental agency.

SECTION 5.2. RIGHT TO ACCESS AND PRODUCE FOOD. The Citizens of the Town of Liberty possess the right to save and exchange seed and to produce, process, sell, purchase, and consume local food of their choosing.

SECTION 5.3. RIGHT TO SELF-GOVERNANCE. The Citizens of the Town of Liberty possess the right to a form of governance that recognizes that all power is inherent in the people and that all free governments are founded on the people's authority and consent.

SECTION 5.4. RIGHT TO ENFORCE. The Citizens of the Town of Liberty possess the right to adopt measures which prevent the violation of the rights enumerated in this Ordinance.

SECTION 6. STATEMENT OF LAW, IMPLEMENTATION. The following restrictions and provisions serve to implement the preceding statements of law.

- 1) State and Federal Law. It shall be unlawful for any law or regulation adopted by the state or federal government to interfere with the rights recognized by this Ordinance. It shall be unlawful for any

corporation to interfere with the rights recognized by this Ordinance. The term "corporation" shall mean any business entity organized under the laws of any state or country.

2) Patron Liability Protection. Patrons purchasing food for home consumption may enter into private agreements with those producers or processors of local foods to waive any liability for the consumption of that food.

SECTION 7. CIVIL ENFORCEMENT. The Town of Liberty may enforce the provisions of this Ordinance through seeking equitable relief from a court of competent jurisdiction. Any individual citizen of the Town of Liberty shall have standing to vindicate any rights secured by this ordinance which have been violated or which are threatened with violation, and may seek relief both in the form of injunctive and compensatory relief from a court of competent jurisdiction.

SECTION 8. TOWN ACTION AGAINST PREEMPTION. The foundation for making and adoption of this law is the people's fundamental and inalienable right to govern themselves, and thereby secure their rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Any attempt to use other units and levels of government to preempt, amend, alter, or overturn this Ordinance or parts of this Ordinance shall require the Town to hold public meetings that explore the adoption of other measures that expand local control and the ability of citizens to protect their fundamental and inalienable right to self-government.

SECTION 9. EFFECT. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its enactment.

SECTION 10. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. To the extent any provision of this Ordinance is deemed invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such provision will be removed from the Ordinance, and the balance of the Ordinance shall remain valid.

SECTION 11. REPEALER. All inconsistent provisions of prior ordinances adopted by the Town of Liberty are hereby repealed, but only to the extent necessary to remedy the inconsistency.

SECTION 12. HUMAN RIGHTS AND CONSTITUTIONALITY. Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed as authorizing any activities or actions that violate human rights protected by the U.S. Constitution or the Constitution of the State of Maine.

## TOWN OPERATIONS

8. To see what sum of money the Town will raise, from taxation, for the following accounts:

<b>Account</b>	<b>Selectmen Recommendation</b>	<b>Budget Committee Recommendation</b>
Administration	36,000.00	36,000.00
Legal Fund Reserve	0.00	0.00
Planning Board	3,000.00	3,000.00
TCSWMO	18,838.75	18,838.75
Animal Control	1,900.00	1,900.00
EMA Ops	250.00	250.00
Cemeteries	8,200.00	8,200.00
Poor Account	3,500.00	3,500.00
Street Lights	3,300.00	3,300.00
Insurance	17,500.00	17,500.00
Payroll Expenses	7,500.00	7,500.00
Community Hall	4,000.00	4,000.00
Total	103,988.75	103,988.75

9. EMERGENCY FUND: To see what sum of money, if any, the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appropriate, from surplus, to meet unanticipated expenses and emergencies that occur during the next fiscal year. (The Town spent \$7004 in 2014)

<b>Account</b>	<b>Selectmen Recommendation</b>	<b>Budget Committee Recommendation</b>
Emergency Fund	6,146.00	6,146.00

10. MILEAGE: To see what rate the Town will vote to authorize travel expenses for essential travel by any Town Official when such travel is on town business out of town (to be paid from the Administration Account), and for the Road Commissioner (to be paid from Road and Bridges Account) and Code Enforcement Officer (to be paid from the Planning Board Account) on town business in town.

Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommendation: Adopt State Standard Mileage Rate (current rate \$0.44/mile)

11. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to transfer unexpended and unneeded funds, from certain departments to Surplus.

12. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to interview and hire an Assessor's Agent to assist in Assessment of Properties as directed by the Board of Assessors and to see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from surplus. Selectmen will appoint the person and he/she will report to the Board of Assessors. Hourly pay rate to be determined by the Selectmen.

<b>Position</b>	<b>Selectmen Recommendation</b>	<b>Budget Committee Recommendation</b>
Assessor's Agent	15,000.00	10,000.00

## HIGHWAYS

13. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation for the Roads and Bridges account, to be used for the maintenance, paving and sand/salt of contracted Town roads and to be used as Town matching funds for any FEMA/MEMA grants received in FY 2016.

<b>Account</b>	<b>Selectmen's Recommendation</b>	<b>Budget Committee's Recommendation</b>
RDB maintenance	60,000.00	60,000.00
Paving	60,000.00	60,000.00
Salt and Sand	32,000.00	32,000.00
Totals	152,000.00	152,000.00

14. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation, to be used to assure proper operation of the St. George Dam.

<b>Account</b>	<b>Selectmen's Recommendation</b>	<b>Budget Committee's Recommendation</b>
St. George Dam Maintenance	1,000.00	1,000.00
Total:	1,000.00	1,000.00

15. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation for the remainder of the current snowplowing contract:

<b>Account</b>	<b>Selectmen's Recommendation</b>	<b>Budget Committee's Recommendation</b>
Snow Plowing Contract	153,900.00	153,900.00
Totals:	153,900.00	153,900.00

LIBERTY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

16. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, to operate the Liberty Volunteer Fire Department and to pay Fire Department volunteer firefighters while on the job.

<b>Account</b>	<b>Selectmen's Recommendation</b>	<b>Budget Committee's Recommendation</b>
Operations	45,000.00	45,000.00
Payroll	15,000.00	15,000.00
Capital Reserve	10,000.00	10,000.00
Totals:	67,500.00	80,000.00

LIBERTY VOLUNTEER FIRE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

17. To see if the Town will carry over the current balance of \$28,219.20 for the LVFD Capital Reserve account.

18. To see if the Town will add any unspent monies from combination of Operations and Payroll to the LVFD Capital Reserve account.

19. To see if the Town will use any donations to the LVFD to offset LVFD Operations or Payroll budget overruns and add any surplus to the LVFD Capital Reserve account.

PARKS & RECREATION

20. RECREATION ACCOUNT:

A. To see if the Town will accept reimbursements from the Town of Montville for maintenance of the recreation area (**Estimate: \$1,500.00**). Montville has been formally requested to raise \$1,500.00 for this account.

**Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommendation: pass**

B. To see if the Town will accept funds from the State of Maine (income from the State Park, of approximately **\$1,916**), and vote to raise from taxation, for the recreation account.

<b>Account</b>	<b>Selectmen's Recommendation</b>	<b>Budget Committee's Recommendation</b>
Recreation	8,200.00	8,200.00
Totals:	8,200.00	8,200.00

**Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommendation: pass**

C. To see if the funds raised from the State's Refund of snowmobile registrations will be provided to the Palermo Snowmobile Club (estimate: \$235).

**Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommendation: pass**

21. RECREATION REQUESTS: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, for the following recreation requests. Montville has been formally requested to raise **\$400.00** for swim lessons:

<b>Account</b>	<b>Selectmen's Recommendation</b>	<b>Budget Committee's Recommendation</b>
Swimming Program	800.00	800.00
Walker Wildcats Softball	200.00	200.00
Liberty/Montville Little League	500.00	500.00
Liberty Farm Teams	350.00	350.00
Liberty T-Ball Teams	250.00	250.00
Liberty Basketball Teams	300.00	300.00
Eleven Towns Youth Hockey	200.00	200.00
Waldo County YMCA	250.00	250.00
Totals:	2,850.00	2,850.00

**INDEPENDENT SERVICES**

22. JAWS: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, for the Tri-Town Rescue Jaws team.

<b>Account</b>	<b>Selectmen's Recommendation</b>	<b>Budget Committee's Recommendation</b>
Tri-Town Jaws	500.00	500.00
Totals:	500.00	500.00

23. AMBULANCE: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, a retainer for service paid to the Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Service. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, a stipend for Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Service to be used to help defray the cost of training ambulance personnel.

<b>Account</b>	<b>Selectmen's Recommendation</b>	<b>Budget Committee's Recommendation</b>
Town Retainer	1,000.00	1,000.00
Training	3,000.00	3,000.00
Totals:	4,000.00	4,000.00

24. IVAN O. DAVIS LIBRARY: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, to help support operation of the Ivan O. Davis Liberty Library.

<b>Account</b>	<b>Selectmen's Recommendation</b>	<b>Budget Committee's Recommendation</b>
Operations	4,800.00	4,800.00
Totals:	4,800.00	4,800.00

25. WALKER-OVERLOCK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP:

A. To see what sums the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, for the WOMS account.

<b>Account</b>	<b>Selectmen's Recommendation</b>	<b>Budget Committee's Recommendation</b>
WOM Scholarship Fund	1,000.00	1,000.00
Totals:	1,000.00	1,000.00

B. To see what sums the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, for WOMS scholarship awards in the upcoming year.

**Selectmen Recommendation: \$1,500**

26. SOCIAL REQUESTS: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, for the following:

<b>Account</b>	<b>Selectmen's Recommendation</b>	<b>Budget Committee's Recommendation</b>
AMVETS	2,000.00	1,000.00
Belfast Area Child Care Services	500.00	500.00
Broadreach	500.00	500.00
Citizens Association of Liberty Lakes (CALL)	150.00	150.00
Hospice Vol./Waldo County	500.00	500.00
Kennebec Behavioral Health	100.00	100.00
Liberty Historical Society	400.00	400.00
Lifeflight	913.00	913.00
Maine Youth Alliance --- Game Loft	300.00	300.00
Mid-Coast Maine Community Action (WIC)	500.00	500.00
New Hope For Women	750.00	750.00
Red Cross	500.00	500.00
Sexual Assault Crisis & Support Center	100.00	100.00
Spectrum Generations	500.00	500.00
Waldo Cap	1,726.00	1,726.00
Waldo County Woodshed	500.00	500.00
Totals:	9,939.00	8,939.00

DEBT SERVICE

27. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, for the following loans:

<b>Account</b>	<b>Selectmen's Recommendation</b>	<b>Budget Committee's Recommendation</b>
Stevens Pond Dam	3,985.24	3,985.24
Hostile Valley Bridge	9,102.77	9,102.77
Totals:	13,088.01	13,088.01

PROPERTY TAXES

28. To see if the Town will vote to have all taxes due and payable immediately upon commitment to the Tax Collector and:

A. To see if the Town will determine that taxes not paid 30 days after commitment are considered delinquent.

B. To see what sum of interest the Town will vote to charge on all liens and delinquent taxes.

**Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommendation: 5%**  
**[The maximum rate of interest that may be charged: 7%]**

C. To see if the Town will vote that a taxpayer who pays an amount in excess of that finally assessed shall be repaid the amount of the overpayment plus interest from date of the overpayment at an annual rate set 4% below that established in the preceding Article.

**Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommendation: 1%**

D. To see if the Town will vote to authorize any action necessary, by the Selectmen and Tax Collector, to collect any delinquent taxes outstanding for prior years; and to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired for non-payment of taxes thereon, using a bid process or other such terms as deemed advisable, by the Selectmen and the State, including publishing in local papers, including the right to accept or reject any and all bids, and should the bid process be used, authorize execution of Quit-Claim deeds for such property sold.

E. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes.

**Selectmen Recommendation: pass**

29. To see if the Town of Liberty will accept and carry over any Education Block Grants, State Revenue Sharing and other funds as may be available to be used toward the FY 2016 Budget appropriations thereby decreasing the amount required to be raised by property taxation.

**Selectmen Recommendation: pass.**

30. Should a vacancy in any elected office arise during the Town Meeting, to vote for a replacement of said official.

31. To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Liberty by State law in the event that the FY 2016 municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit. (Vote must be by written ballot.)

**Selectmen Recommendation: pass**

GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS, THIS 16th DAY OF MARCH, 2015

Steven Chapin

Carrie Peavey

Henry Hall

A True Copy: Attest

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gail H. Philippi  
Town Clerk, Town of Liberty

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of Liberty, qualified to vote, of the time and place of said Special Town Meeting by posting an attested copy of the Warrant at the following locations:

Liberty Post Office	Liberty Tool
Peavey's General Store	Liberty Fire Department
Liberty Graphics	Liberty General Store
Liberty Library	
Lori's Café	
Walker School	
Liberty Town Office	
Dave's World	

All being conspicuous public places within the Town of Liberty on \_\_\_\_\_ which is at least seven days before said meeting.

Dated at Liberty, Maine this \_\_\_\_\_ day of March, 2015.

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Hannah Hatfield, a Resident of Liberty