***TOWN WARRANT***

**STATE OF MAINE**

**TOWN OF LIBERTY**

Speakers prior to meeting commencement:

* First Selectman Melinda Steeves spoke about the revaluation
* State Rep. Stanley Paige Ziegler, Montville
* County Treasurer Peter Sheff.

Town Clerk Gail Philippi opened the meeting at 9:13 am

***To:*** Dana Philippi, 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 30th day of March, 2019 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.

Melinda Steeves nominated Andrew Worcester, Carrie Peavey seconded. Vote by written ballot, Andrew Worcester elected unopposed 4-0. **Andrew Worcester was sworn in as Moderator.**

1. To elect the following positions:
   1. Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Town Agent; (one year)

Melinda Steeves nominated Gail Philippi, Dana Philippi seconded. No discussion. **Gail Philippi elected.**

* 1. Treasurer; (one year)

Melinda Steeves nominated Hannah Hatfield, Gail Philippi seconded. No discussion. **Hannah Hatfield elected.**

* 1. Fire Chief; (one year)

Tobey Kress nominated Bill Gillespie, Carrie Peavey seconded. No

discussion. **Bill Gillespie elected.**

D. Road Commissioner (one year)

Melinda Steeves nominated Tammy Reynolds, Carrie Peavey seconded. No

discussion. **Tammy Reynolds elected.**

1. To elect a First Selectman to serve on the Selectboard, Board of Assessors and Overseers of the Poor for a three-year term. (Melinda Steeves' term is ending.)

Carrie Peavey nominated Melinda Steeves, Carrie Peavey seconded. No discussion

. **Melinda Steeves elected.**

1. To elect a Budget Committee not to exceed 8 members to assist the Selectboard by meeting periodically with the Selectboard and Treasurer to review financial accounts of the Town and assist in budgeting town funds. Current members are Elise Brown, Judith Fuller, Joy Hadsell, Dorothy Harrison, Betsy Levine, Melanie Ripley, Joan Tax and Barry Worcester. Dorothy Harrison and Barry Worcester have given notice they will not be serving another term.

### Selectboard Recommendation: Replace retiring members.

Melinda Steeves moved to accept the current Board minus Barry Worcester, Carrie Peavey seconded. **Dorothy Harrison Thornton was added**.

1. To fix compensation, from taxation, for the following positions:



Dana Philippi moved to accept as read as accepted by the Budget Committee Judy Fuller seconded. There was discussion on the Town Administrator’s pay going up and the Selectboard pay going down. Barbara Rehmeyer asked about the Town Administrator pay which Kenn Ortmann explained is $16.35/hour. Gail explained Clerk increase. There was discussion about the required Health Officer position. Judy Fuller asked about the Road Commissioner’s salary. **HL Whitney made a motion to increase the Road Commissioner’s salary to $10,000 Judy Fuller seconded.** There was some discussion. **Vote on amendment, the amendment passed.**

Barbara Rehmeyer asked about Town Administrator pay. Kenn explained it is 20 hours a week @ $16.35/hour.

**The amended article passed for $109,327.00.**

**TOWN OPERATIONS**

1. To see what sum of money the Town will use from encumbered funds to hire Maine Assessment & Appraisal Services (our Revaluation contractor) for a year as our Assessors Agent**.**

****Melinda Steeves moved to accept as read, BettyLu Davis seconded. Some discussion. **Article passed**.

1. **Digital Tax Maps**
   1. To see if the Town will authorize carrying over last year's appropriation of $5,000 from surplus to apply toward hiring low-bid CAI Technologies to create our Digital Tax Maps.

Gail Philippi moved to accept as read, Dana Philippi seconded. **Article passed**.

**Selectboard & Budget committee Recommendation: pass**

* 1. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation, if Article 7A is approved, to hire CAI Technologies to fully fund the conversion of our current paper tax maps to Digital Tax Maps.

****Judy Fuller moved to accept as recommended by the Selectboard and Budget Committee. Melinda Steeves seconded. **Article passed**.

* 1. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation to hire CAI Technologies to set up an AxisGIS online platform to allow our GIS and TRIO assessment date to be electronically available online to staff and property owners through our WEB site.

****Judy Fuller moved to accept as read, Gail Philippi seconded. Some discussion. **Article passed**.

* 1. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation for the position of Tax Map Coordinator if Article 7A and/or Article 7B is not approved.

****Judy Fuller moved to pass by the Article as Article 7A & 7B were approved, Melinda Steeves seconded. **Article passed by**.

1. **TRIO MODULES**
   1. To see if the Town will raise, from taxation, funds to purchase the Budgetary TRIO software module with training to allow for greater efficiency and tighten up our financial management process:

Barbara Rehmeyer moved to accept as read, BettyLu Davis seconded. Treasurer Hannah Hatfield explained that the Clerk currently uses Trio and the Treasurer uses QuickBooks. It is more wiggly. The Auditor recommends using Budgetary as it is very accountable. No discussion, **Article passed**.

* 1. To see if the Town will raise, from taxation, funds to purchase the TRIO Payroll Module to allow for greater efficiency and tighten up our financial management process.

Melinda Steeves moved to accept as read, Gail Philippi seconded. **Article passed**.

* 1. To see if the Town will raise, from taxation, funds to upgrade our Cash Receipting module to add MOSES to allow for greater efficiency and tighten up our financial management process

Gail Philippi moved to accept as read, Dana Philippi seconded. Some discussion about what it is. **Article passed**.

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

Melinda Steeves moved to accept as read, Cindy Frost seconded. No discussion. **Article passed**.

1. **PARKING ENFORCEMENT**

Continuing parking and safety issues at Marshall Shore has resulted in several potential approaches to address the problem. *(See the Road Commissioner's report for more information.)*

* 1. To see if the town will raise and appropriate from taxation funds to create a position or hire personnel to monitor parking and enforce our parking ordinance.

Henry Hall moved to accept as read, Betty-Lu Davis seconded. Road Commissioner Tammy Reynolds, Sherriff Jason Trundy and Lake St. George Park Ranger Sunshine Hood spoke. No objection to Trundy speaking. Discussion.

Tammy Reynolds moved the question, Jane Liebler seconded. **Article passed**.

* 1. To see if the town will raise and appropriate from taxation funds to provide vehicle stickers to Town Residents only.

 Earle Albert moved to accept as read, Betty-Lu Davis seconded

Julie Beckford commented that the word “only” is confusing. A. Worcester explained that Article 10C overrides B. Elise Brown made a motion to remove ”only” from Article 10B. Richard King seconded. No further discussion. The **amendment passed**. After further discussion, Tammy Reynolds called the question to a vote. **Article as amended passed**.

* 1. To see if the town will raise and appropriate from taxation funds to provide vehicle stickers with real estate bills to all Liberty taxpayers.

 Cindy Frost moved to accept as read, Dana Philippi seconded.

Discussion. Toni Clark made motion to amend article to say “provide to Liberty taxpayers on request.” Shirley Smith seconded.

Gail Williams made motion to move the question. The **amendment passed**.

1. To see if the town will raise and appropriate from taxation funds to purchase a "Boot" to be used as a last resort only after multiple violations to highlight the seriousness of Town safety concerns.

 Melinda Steeves moved to accept as read, Tammy Reynolds seconded. Brief discussion. Tammy Reynolds made motion to move article. **Article failed**.

1. **COMMUNITY HALL:** To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation, to be used to assure proper operation of the Community Hall.

 Melinda Steeves moved to accept as read, Carrie Peavey seconded. Brief discussion. **Article passed**.

1. To see if the Town will add any unspent monies from the Community Hall Operations line item, any donations to the fund, and fees collected from users of the Community Hall to the Community Hall Capital Reserve account.

### Selectboard & Budget Committee Recommendation: pass

Melinda Steeves moved to accept as read, Carrie Peavey seconded. No discussion. **Article passed**.

Tammy Reynolds made a motion to **move Articles 20 & 21 to be next**. Betty Lu Davis seconded. No discussion, **passed**.

**Addressed Article 20 and 21 A, B and C here. See minutes below.**

Elise Brown made a motion for a 5 minute recess for State Representative Erin Herbig to speak.

**HIGHWAYS**

1. **A.** To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation for the Roads and Bridges accounts to be used for the maintenance, paving, sand/salt and snowplowing of contracted Town roads and to be used as Town matching funds for any FEMA/MEMA grants received in FY 2020.





Dana Philippi made a motion to accept as read. Betty Lu Davis seconded.

Tammy Reynolds made a motion to take the paving out of the article. Judy Fuller seconded. The amendment passes. Discussion.

**The article passes for $289,200**.

**B.** To see if the Town will authorize the creation of a designated Capital Reserve fund to pay for paving to allow for maximum flexibility in requesting bids and awarding contracts and to see what sum of money the Town will appropriate from surplus to capitalize the fund.

Judy Fuller made a motion to increase the amount to $140,000 out of surplus, Dean Bartlett seconded. Discussion. **Article passes**.

1. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the use of the balance remaining of the $25,000 appropriation from surplus to pay for repairs to the Stevens Pond and Lake St George dams voted at a Special Town meeting July 30, 2018 to be used instead to pay for repairs and/or consulting services to prepare documentation and to advocate for State of Maine responsibility for repairs to the Lake St. George dam.

**Selectboard & Budget committee Recommendation: pass**

Melinda Steeves moved to accept as read, Cindy Frost seconded. Discussion.

**Article passed**.

1. 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 and Stevens Pond Dams.



Cindy Frost made a motion to accept as read. Judy Fuller seconded. Dana Philippi asked if it is enough. The answer is no. **Article passed**.

**LIBERTY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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

Judy Fuller made a motion to accept as read. Barbara Rehmeyer seconded. **Article passed**.

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

**Selectboard & Budget Committee Recommendation: pass**

Judy Fuller made a motion to accept as read. Betty Lu Davis seconded. **Article passed**.

1. 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.

**Selectboard & Budget Committee Recommendation: pass**

Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read. Judy Fuller seconded. No discussion. Article passed.

Toni Clark made a motion to **move Article 29** to be after the Fire Department article as it is related. Richard King seconded. **Motion passed**.

**Addressed Article 29 here. See minutes below.**

# PARKS & RECREATION

1. **RECREATION ACCOUNT:**
2. To see if the Town will accept reimbursements from the Town of Montville for maintenance of the recreation area **(Estimate: $2,000.00).** Montville has been formally requested to raise $2,000.00 for this account.

### Selectboard & Budget Committee Recommendation: pass

Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read. Carrie Peavey seconded. Henry Hall noted that Montville voted for $1,000. **Article passed**.

1. To see if the Town will accept funds from the State of Maine (income from the State Park estimated at $4,985), and vote to raise $8,200 from taxation, for the recreation account (consisting primarily of mowing and portable toilets).

 Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read. Carrie Peavey seconded. No discussion. **Article passed**.

1. To see if funds raised from the State's Refund of snowmobile registrations will be provided to the Palermo Snowmobile Club *(Estimate: $410).*

### Selectboard & Budget Committee Recommendation: pass

Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read. Carrie Peavey seconded. No discussion. **Article passed**.

1. **RECREATION REQUESTS**: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, for the following recreation requests.



Dana Philippi made a motion to accept as Selectboard and Budget Committee recommended for **$2050**. HL Whitney seconded. Betty Lu Davis asked why YMCA? Dottie Harrison explained because YMCA charges a fee, they recommended 0. Sunshine Hood pointed out that it goes to help people who can’t afford it. **Article passed**.

**INDEPENDENT SERVICES**

1. **AMBULANCE:** To see if the Town will use $18,619 of encumbered Ambulance funding to reduce the cost of providing Ambulance services.

Melinda Steeves moved to accept as read, Carrie Peavey seconded. Cindy Frost asked how much encumbered. Melinda Steeves explained that we raised $40,000 last year and didn’t use it all. **Article passed.**

1. **AMBULANCE SERVICE:** To see what level of service the Town is willing to support. The Ambulance Service states that the Option A (below) is *"the most secure way to ensure the Ambulance rolls on Weekends"*. The figures below assume adoption of Article 20.
   1. To see if the Town will raise from taxation, and appropriate to the Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Service, $51,585 to reimburse for per diem payroll expenses for 7 days/wk coverage EMT & Driver, contingent upon Montville approval of the same service level.



Cindy Frost moved to accept as read $51,585, Carrie Peavey seconded.

Dana Philippi asked what Montville did. Hannah Hatfield reported that Montville voted for option C. Discussion.

Betty Lu Davis called it to a vote, Gail Philippi seconded. Motioned retracted.

Betty Lu Davis made a motion to remove “contingent upon Montville approval of same service”. Ben Kann seconded. Discussion.

Luke Boulay made a motion to vote on the amendment. Betty Lu Davis seconded.

The **amendment passed**. Discussion.

Andre Blanchard suggested tabling the motion. Moderator Andrew Worcester said the motion can’t be tabled.

Betty Lu Davis made a motion to call the question. Melinda Steeves seconded. Moderator Andrew Worcester clarified we were voting on $51,585 and if the body says no on A then we’re done and we vote on B or C.

The **amended article passed**.

* 1. To see if the Town will raise from taxation, and appropriate to the Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Service, $42,273 to reimburse for per diem payroll expenses for weekday coverage EMT & Driver, plus weekend EMT coverage (no weekend Driver coverage), contingent upon Montville approval of the same service level.



Judy Fuller moved to pass by, Melinda Steeves seconded. No discussion. **Passed by**.

* 1. To see if the Town will raise from taxation, and appropriate to the Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Service, $32,898 to reimburse for per diem payroll expenses for weekday coverage EMT & Driver, (no weekend coverage), contingent upon Montville approval of the same service level.



Judy Fuller moved to pass by, Ruth Anne Spence seconded. No discussion. Passed by.

1. **IVAN O. DAVIS LIBRARY:** To see if the Town will raise and appropriate $4,800, from taxation, to help support operation of the Ivan O. Davis Liberty Library.



Melinda Steeves moved to accept as read, Betty Lu Davis seconded. No discussion. **Article passed**.

1. **WALKER-OVERLOCK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP:** To see if the Town will raise and appropriate $1,500, from taxation, to supplement the December 2018 principle of $72,257.95 in the WOMS account.



Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, Carrie Peavey seconded. Cindy Frost asked why we need this money when we have the $72,000. Barbara Rehmeyer explained that no one applied last year, we’re getting very little interest and that’s all they can use. They will do a better job of advertising next year. **Article passed**.

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



Melinda Steeves moved to accept as read as the Selectboard and Budget Committee recommended for **$14,688** Dana Philippi seconded. Melinda Steeves noted that we donated 15 cords of wood last year as the reason we are not raising funds for Waldo County Woodshed. Dana Philippi stated that the Garry Owen House veterans’ homeless shelter has had 32 vets come through. They are hoping to buy the building and are looking for a Secretary. They’ve found homes and jobs for many of the vets. Andre Blanchard asked why the Amvets food pantry is so much more. It has always been so.

The **article passed**.

1. **LEGAL FUND:** To see if the Town will authorize carrying over the balance remaining from the original appropriation of $40,000 in 2015. *(The specific amount will be provided at Town Meeting.)*

**Selectboard & Budget Committee Recommendation: pass**

Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read. Carrie Peavey seconded. The amount is $14,205.**Article passed**.

1. **MILEAGE:** To see what rate the Town will vote to authorize as travel expenses for essential travel by any Town Official when such travel is on town business out of town, and Code Enforcement Officer on town business in town, to be paid from the Administration Account.

### Selectboard Recommendation: Adopt State Standard Mileage Rate (current rate $0.44/mile)

Dana Philippi moved to accept as read, Melinda Steeves seconded. No discussion. **Article passed**.

1. **ENVIRONMENTAL FUND:** To see if the Town will authorize carrying over the balance remaining from the original appropriation in 2003-2004 and adding it to funding designated for dam maintenance and repairs. *(The specific amount will be provided at Town Meeting.)*

### Selectboard & Budget Committee Recommendation: pass

Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, Doug Black seconded. No discussion. **Article passed**.

**CITIZEN INITIATIVES**

1. To see if the Town will replace its existing local food ordinance with the following ordinance to protect the health and integrity of the local food system. This version is proposed to align the Ordinance with the provisions of the Maine Food Sovereignty Act.

Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, Randy Hadsell seconded. Richard King explained that the Town voted on the Ordinance in 2015. Fifty two towns have voted it in. This is to bring the Ordinance in line with the State of Maine. **Article passed**.

Local Food and Community Self-Governance Ordinance of 2019

An Ordinance to Protect the Health and Integrity of the Local Food System

in the Town Of Liberty, Waldo County, Maine

1. Title

This ordinance, adopted by the town of Liberty (hereinafter “the Town”), shall be known and may be cited as the “Local Food and Community Self-Governance Ordinance.”

1. Preamble

We, the People of the Town have the right to produce, process, sell, purchase, and consume local foods thus promoting self-reliance, the preservation of family farms, and local food traditions. We recognize that family farms; sustainable agricultural practices; and food processing by individuals, families, and non-corporate entities 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.

We have faith in our citizens’ ability to educate themselves and make informed decisions. We hold that certain federal and state regulations unnecessarily impede local food production and constitute a usurpation of our citizens’ right to foods of their choice. We support food that fundamentally respects human dignity and health; nourishes individuals and the community; and sustains producers, processors, and the environment. We are therefore duty bound under the Constitution of the State of Maine to protect and promote reasonably unimpeded access to local foods.

All individuals have a natural, inherent, and unalienable right to acquire, produce, process, prepare, preserve, and consume the food of their own choosing for their own nourishment and sustenance. Furthermore, all individuals have a right to barter, trade, and purchase food and to save and exchange seed from the sources of their own choosing for their own physical health and well-being. Every individual is fully responsible for the exercise of these rights, which may not be infringed.

1. Purpose

It is the policy of this State to encourage food self-sufficiency for its citizens. The purpose of the Local Food and Community Self-Governance Ordinance is to:

1. Through local control, preserve the ability of individuals and communities to save and exchange seed, to produce, process, sell, purchase, and consume locally produced foods;
2. Ensure the preservation of family farms and traditional foodways through small-scale farming, food production, and community social events;
3. Improve the health and well-being of citizens of this State by reducing hunger and increasing food security through unimpeded access to wholesome, nutritious foods by encouraging ecological farming;
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 customers intended solely for consumption by the customers or their families;
5. Enhance rural economic development and the environmental and social wealth of rural communities; and
6. Protect access to local food through direct producer-to-consumer transactions.
7. Definitions

As used in this ordinance, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the meanings stated below:

1. COMMUNITY SOCIAL EVENT: 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, farmers’ market, agricultural fair, and other public events.
2. DIRECT PRODUCER-TO-CONSUMER TRANSACTION: An exchange of local food within a local food system between a producer or processor and a patron by barter, trade, or purchase on the property or premises owned, leased or rented by the producer or processor of the local food; at roadside stands, fundraisers, farmers’ markets, and community social events; or through buying clubs, deliveries or community supported agriculture programs, herdshare agreements, and other private arrangements.
3. LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM: A food system that integrates food production, processing, consumption, direct producer-to-consumer transactions, and traditional foodways to enhance the environmental, economic, social, and physical health of the municipality and its residents.
4. LOCAL FOOD: Any food or food product that is grown, produced, processed, or prepared by individuals who exchange that food directly with patrons.
5. PATRON: An informed individual who acquires local food directly from a processor or producer.
6. PROCESSOR: An individual who processes or prepares products of the soil or animals for food or drink.
7. PRODUCER: A farmer or gardener who grows or raises any plant or animal for food or drink.
8. TRADITIONAL FOODWAYS: The cultural, social, and economic practices related to the production and consumption of food and the conveying of knowledge regarding food production and preparation.
9. Authority

This ordinance is adopted and enacted pursuant to the inherent, inalienable, and fundamental right of the citizens of the Town 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.

**Article I, §2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine**, which declares *inter alia*: “all power is inherent in the people; all free governments are founded in their authority and instituted for their benefit, [and that] 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.”

**Article VIII, Part Second of the Constitution of the State of Maine**, which establishes Home Rule: “The inhabitants of any municipality shall have the power to alter and amend their charters on all matters, not prohibited by Constitution or general law, which are local and municipal in character.”

**§1-A of Title 7 of the Maine Revised Statutes,** which states *inter alia*: “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. For this purpose there is established the Department of Agriculture, Forestry, and Conservation”

**§1-B of Title 7 of the Maine Revised Statutes**, which states *inter alia*: The [...] preservation of rural life and values in the State [is] to be the joint responsibility of all public agencies, local, state and federal, whose policies and programs substantially impact the economy and general welfare of people who reside in rural Maine, such as the development and implementation of programs that assist in the maintenance of family farms [...] and improve health and nutrition.

**§284 of Title 7, Chapter 8-F**, Maine Food Sovereignty Act, which states *inter alia*: “a municipality may adopt ordinances regarding direct producer-to-consumer transactions and the State shall recognize such ordinances by not enforcing those state food laws with respect to those direct producer-to-consumer transactions that are governed by the ordinance.”

**§3001 of Title 30-A of the Maine Revised Statutes**, which implements Home Rule and grants municipalities all powers necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Town where those powers have been conferred on the towns by the Legislature or not otherwise limited.

1. Statements of Law
2. **Right to Self-Governance.** Citizens the Town have the right to a form of governance which recognizes that all power is inherent in the people, that all free governments are founded on the people’s authority and consent.
3. **Right to Acquire and Produce Food.** Citizens of the Town possess the right to save and exchange seed and to produce, process, sell, purchase, and consume local foods of their choosing.
4. **Exemption from Licensure and Inspection.** The producers and processors of local food intended for direct producer-to-consumer transactions in the Town governed by this ordinance shall be exempt from state licensure and inspection. In accordance with Section 284 of the Maine Food Sovereignty Act, the State of Maine shall not enforce those state food laws, rules, or regulations with respect to those transactions as defined in Section 4. The transactions enumerated in Section 4 are governed by this ordinance and provide the context otherwise indicated as stated in Section 282 of the Maine Food Sovereignty Act.
5. **Meat and Poultry.** This ordinance is not applicable to any meat or poultry products that are required to be produced or processed in compliance with the Maine Meat and Poultry Inspection Program.

This ordinance is applicable to shared animal ownership agreements in compliance with the federal acts as defined in Title 22, Chapter 562-A, §2511 of the Maine Revised Statutes and similar private contractual agreements, herdshare agreements, and buying clubs.

1. **Liability Protection.** Producers and processors of local food may enter into private agreements with patrons to waive any liability for the consumption of local food.
2. Civil Enforcement.

Any individual citizen of the Town shall have standing to enforce any rights secured by this ordinance which have been threatened or contested by any person, whether natural or juridical, and may seek relief both in the form of injunctive and compensatory relief from a court of competent jurisdiction.

1. Effect

This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its enactment.

1. Severability Clause

To the extent any provision of this ordinance is deemed invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such provision will be removed and the balance of the ordinance shall remain valid.

1. Repealer

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

1. 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.

1. Mutual Recognition and Inter-municipal Government Collaboration

The Town hereby recognizes producers and processors of local foods in other municipalities that have also adopted a Local Food and Community Self-Governance Ordinance. Those producers and processors of local foods from other municipalities operating under a similar ordinance may also operate under this ordinance.

1. To see if the Town will vote to place the name of Alger and Marion Parmenter on the Fire Station building façade to honor their life-long dedication to community services. *(Alger played a key role in the original formation of the Fire Department and village fire station (now Library), and Marion was the first licensed nurse volunteering for the newly formed Ambulance Service and for many years thereafter. No expenses will be borne by the Town. A summary of Alger's and Marion’s community services will be provided at the town meeting.)*

Judy Fuller made a motion to accept as read. Ruthanne Spence seconded.

There was a request for Gerry Parmenter, who is not a Liberty resident, to speak.

**Discussion**, Gerry spoke.

Melinda Steeves made a motion to vote, Carrie Peavey seconded. Motion passed.

**Article failed**.

# DEBT SERVICE

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



Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, Carrie Peavey seconded. No discussion. **Article passed**.

# PROPERTY TAXES

1. To see if the Town will vote to have all taxes due and payable immediately upon commitment to the Tax Collector and:
2. To see if the Town will determine that taxes not paid 30 days after commitment are considered delinquent.

### Selectboard Recommendation: pass.

Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, Carrie Peavey seconded. **Article passed**.

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

### Selectboard Recommendation: 5% *(The maximum rate of interest that may be charged: 7%)*

Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read with 5%, Carrie Peavey seconded. No discussion. **Article passed**.

1. 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.

### Selectboard Recommendation: 1%

Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, Carrie Peavey seconded. No discussion. **Article passed**.

1. To see if the Town will vote to authorize any action necessary, by the Selectboard and Treasurer, to collect any delinquent taxes outstanding for prior years; and to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard, 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 Selectboard 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, 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).

### Selectboard Recommendation: pass

Dana Philippi made a motion to accept as read, Melinda Steeves seconded. No discussion. **Article passed**.

1. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes for the 2019-2020 year not yet committed.

**Selectboard Recommendation: pass**

Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, Carrie Peavey seconded. No discussion. **Article passed**.

1. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the payment of tax abatements and applicable interest from the property tax overlay account.

### Selectboard Recommendation: pass

Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, Carrie Peavey seconded. No discussion. **Article passed**.

1. 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 2020 Budget appropriations thereby decreasing the amount required to be raised by property taxation.

### Selectboard Recommendation: pass.

Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, Carrie Peavey seconded. The tree harvest income will go against taxes.

Melinda Steeves made a motion to amend the article adding Tree Harvest. Carrie Peavey seconded. Andre Blanchard asked about State Revenue Sharing will it go back to what it was. Kenn Ortmann said we won’t know until the Legislature votes. **The amendment passed. Article as amended passed**.

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

**Selectboard Recommendation: pass.**

Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, Carrie Peavey seconded. No discussion. **Article passed**.

1. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to transfer all revenue from Town woodlot harvesting to surplus?

### Selectboard Recommendation: pass.

Melinda Steeves made a motion to pass by, Andre Blanchard seconded. No discussion. **Article passed**.

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

### Selectboard Recommendation: pass.

Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, Carrie Peavey seconded. No discussion. **Article passed**.

1. 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 2020 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.)

### Selectboard Recommendation: pass

### Kenn Ortmann noted that we can pass this by because of the $140,000 that came out of paving.

### Melinda Steeves made a motion to pass by, Carrie Peavey seconded.

### Melinda Steeves made a motion to adjourn, Dana Philippi seconded.

GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS, THIS 30th DAY OF MARCH, 2019

Melinda Steeves, First Selectman

Carrie Peavey, Second Selectman

Henry Hall, Third Selectman

A True Copy: Attest

Gail H. Philippi

Town Clerk, Town of Liberty