**TOWN WARRANT**

**STATE OF MAINE**

**TOWN OF LIBERTY**

***Speakers prior to the commencement:***

* *Andre Blanchard spoke about the efforts of the Broadband Coalition and starting a Liberty only committee to ensure the Town’s best interest is looked out for.*
* *An announcement was made about members of Mount View’s senior class selling raffle tickets, coffee, and snacks to raise money for project graduation.*
* *Representative Stanley Zeigler spoke about his hopes of being reelected.*
* *Jason Trundy, candidate for Sheriff, spoke about his plans.*
* *It was announced that the Town Report was dedicated to Elise Brown, and she was presented with a plaque. Bill Gillespie, Tammy Reynolds, and Earle Albert all spoke on her behalf.*
* *Town Clerk Beth Cohen opened the meeting at 9:22 am.*

To: **JOE MEADOWS**, Resident of the Town of Liberty, in the County of Waldo, 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** in said Town, on **Saturday, the 26th day of March, 2022 at 9:00** 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 nominates Andrew Worcester, seconded by Duane Jewett. Dana Philippi moved for nominations to cease.* ***Andrew Worcester elected with 3 votes.***

1. To elect the following positions:
	1. Fire Chief (one year).

*Elise Brown nominates Bill Gillespie, seconded by Joe Meadows.* ***Article passes.***

* 1. Road Commissioner (one year).

*Jane Liebler nominates Tammy Reynolds, seconded by Judy Fuller.* ***Article passes.***

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.)

*Elise Brown nominates Melinda Steeves, seconded by Duane Jewett.* ***Article passes.***

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, Dorothy

Thornton, Betsy Levine, Melanie Ripley, Danny McGovern, and Joan Tax.

*Lise Harold moves to accept all 7, seconded by Earle Albert. Joan Tax declines nomination. Andrew Worcester moves to add nomination for position. Judy Fuller nominates Henry Hall. Seconded.* ***Vote for accepting all 7 with Henry Hall taking place for Joan Tax. Article passes.***

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

1. To see if the Town will authorize the After the Fact Fee to be raised from the current amount of $250 to the amount of $1,500. (The After the Fact Fee is charged for failure to have Planning Board Approval for any work that is done within Shoreland Zoning.)

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Duane Jewett. Tammy Reynolds made a motion to* ***amend to $1,500 with the requirement of an 8-hour erosion control class****. Betty Lu Davis asked how this will be enforced, Tammy Reynolds explained that people will sign up online and receive a certificate. Gail Philippi clarified that this will only apply to people after the fact who haven’t done things properly. Elise Brown made a motion to end discussion and vote with amendment, seconded by Gail Philippi.* ***Article passes with amendment.***

1. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to transfer unexpended balances to any account requiring said funds for the purpose of balancing accounts.

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Andre Blanchard.* ***Article passes.***

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **Adopted FY22** | **Recommended FY23** |
| Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Town Agent | $24,426 | $24,426 |
| Deputy Town Clerk/Agent | $22,185 | $25,000 |
| First Selectman | $ 5,000 | $ 5,000 |
| Second Selectman | $ 5,000 | $ 5,000 |
| Third Selectman | $ 5,000 | $ 5,000 |
| Town Administrator | $18,200 | $18,200 |
| Treasurer | $ 8,000 | $10,000 |
| Deputy Treasurer | $ 1,500 (up to) | $ 1,500 (up to) |
| Code Enforcement Officer | $ 5,250 | $ 5,250 |
| Fire Chief | $ 9,500 | $ 9,500 |
| Road Commissioner | $10,000 | $10,000 |
| Animal Control Officer | $ 4,000 | $ 4,000 |
| Registrar of Voters | $ 850 | $ 1,000 |
| Plumbing Inspector | $ 500 | $ 500 |
| E911 Addressing Officer | $ 500 | $1,000 |
| Emergency Management Director | $ 1,500 | $1,500 |
| **TOTAL** | $121,661 | $126,876 |

*Judy Fuller made a motion to accept as read for a total of $126,876, seconded by Earle Albert.* ***Article passes.***

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **Adopted FY22** | **Recommended FY23** |
| Administration | $42,500 | $30,000 |
| TRIO Software | $ 3,445 | $0 (see Article 10) |
| Assessor’s Agent | $ 9,750 | $11,250 |
| Digital Tax Maps | $ 3,200 | $ 3,500 |
| Legal Fees | $ 7,221 | $ 8,855 |
| Planning Board | $ 3,000 | $ 3,000 |
| TCSWMO | $28,000 | $28,000 |
| Animal Control | $ 1,900 | $ 1,900 |
| EMA Ops | $ 250 | $ 250 |
| Mowing | $10,300 | $ 9,800 |
| General Assistance | $ 4,000 | $ 2,000 |
| Streetlights | $ 3,300 | $ 3,300 |
| Insurance | $18,000 | $20,000 |
| Payroll Taxes | $ 9,154 | $11,500 |
| Emergency Fund | $ 7,015 | $0 |
| Parking Management | $ 2,800 | $ 3,995 |
| Snow Shoveling | $ 600 | $ 600 |
| Community Hall | $ 5,000 | $5,000 |
| **TOTAL** | $159,435 | $142,950 |

*Judy Fuller made a motion to accept as read for a total of $142,950, seconded by Earle Albert. Discussion clarifying items. Cindy Frost made a motion to end discussion, seconded by Betty Lu Davis.* ***Article passes.***

1. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation for the Computers, Security, and IT services.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **Adopted FY22** | **Recommended FY23** |
| 3 New Computer Systems for Town Office  |  | $ 3,294 |
| Licenses/Security Services/IT Support Retainer |  | $ 17,000 |
| **Total** |  | $20,294 |

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Earle Albert.* ***Article passes.***

1. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation to supplement an Office Equipment Capital Reserve account.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **Adopted FY22** | **Recommended FY23** |
| Town Office Equipment Capital Reserve Fund | $ 1,000 | $0 |

*Judy Fuller made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Melinda Steeves.* ***Article passes.***

1. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation to supplement the Community Hall Capital Reserve fund. Fund balance as of December 31, 2021, was -0-.

To see if the Town will add any unspent monies from the Community Hall Operations line item, any donation to the fund and fees collected from users of the Community Hall to the Community Hall Capital Reserve account. (Saving for new floors.)

**Selectboard & Budget Committee Recommendation: pass**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **Adopted FY22** | **Recommended FY23** |
| Community Hall Capital Reserve Fund | $ 1,000 | $1,000 |

*Judy Fuller made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Duane Jewett.* ***Article passes.***

**HIGHWAYS**

1. 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, sand/salt and snowplowing of contracted Town roads and to be used as Town matching funds for any FEMA/MEMA grants received in FY23 (NOTE: Snowplowing amount is based upon the current three-year contract.)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **Adopted FY22** | **Recommended FY23** |
| RDB Maintenance | $ 70,000 | $ 60,000 |
| Salt & Sand | $ 48,000 | $ 48,000 |
| Snowplowing | $224,200 | $189,000 |
| 911 Signs | $ 2,000 | $ 2000 |
| **TOTAL** | $347,200 | $299,000 |

*Discussion: Betty Lu Davis asked why snow plowing is going down – was explained that this includes a partial year. Judy Fuller made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Melinda Steeves.* ***Article passes.***

1. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate to supplement the Paving Capital Reserve fund. Fund balance as of December 31, 2021, was $111,258.56.

**Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommendation: pass**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **ADOPTED FY22** | **RECOMMENDED FY23** |
| Paving Capital Reserve Fund | $ 120,000 | $240,000 |

*Judy Fuller made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Duane Jewett. Discussion: Cindy Frost asked why it doubled, Tammy Reynolds explained that it was for paving Back Palermo Road.* ***Article passes.***

1. To see if the Town will add any unspent monies from the RDB Maintenance, and Salt & Sand Accounts to the Paving Capital Reserve account.

**Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommendation: pass.**

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Andre Blanchard.* ***Article passes.***

1. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation, to be used to assure proper operation of the Lake St. George and Stevens Pond dams.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **ADOPTED FY22** | **RECOMMENDED FY23** |
| St. George Maintenance | $1,000 | $1,000 |
| Stevens Pond Maintenance | $ 500 | $ 500 |
| **TOTAL** | $1,500 | $1,500 |

*Lise Harold made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Melinda Steeves. Discussion: Tammy Reynolds explained that the State owns part of the dam, and that the State’s part is still leaking but we have fixed our side.* ***Article passes.***

**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.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **Adopted FY22** | **Recommended FY23** |
| Fire Department Operations | $50,000 | $ 55,540 |
| Fire Department Payroll Expenses | $25,000 | $ 25,000 |
| Fire Department Capital Reserve | $15,000 | $ 15,000 |
| **TOTAL** | $90,000 | $100,540 |

*Judy Fuller made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Betty Lu Davis. Discussion: Joe Meadows expressed concern that the numbers were a little low with prices of diesel and propane so high. Andrew Worcester asked if there were any objections to letting a Montville Resident speak. Fire Chief Bill Gillespie was granted permission to speak and explained that the budget was made with prices at $3.14 and the cost is now around $5. He explained that they will likely need more money, or they will have to cut from other areas to cover it. Joe Meadows asked how much more is needed. Fire Chief Gillespie stated an additional $5,000 would be needed to cover heating costs at the station. Bob Bourassa asked how long the Fire Station is manned, and what the temperature is kept at. FC Gillespie stated that the station is manned 12 hours a day and kept at 68 degrees and the bays are 55 degrees and explained that there are lock boxes over the thermostats to prevent the settings from being changed. Lise Harold suggests that the math error be ignored and amend with what’s on the floor. Andrew Worcester makes a motion to amend Fire Department Operations to $60,540 with the total staying $100,540. Lise Harold makes a motion to accept with amendment, seconded by Barb Edmonds.* ***Article passes with amendment adding extra $5,000, for a total of $100,540.***

1. To see if the Town will add any unspent monies from the Operations account to the LVFD Capital Reserve account. (Fund balance as of December 31, 2021, was $47,382.)

*Elise Brown made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Duane Jewett.* ***Article passes.***

1. To see if the Town will add any unspent monies from the Payroll Account to the LVFD Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP). **Selectboard & Budget Committee Recommendation: pass**

*Elise Brown made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Joe Meadows. Discussion: Jane Bourassa asked for clarification, Fire Chief Bill Gillespie explained that this is a retirement plan for firefighters.* ***Article passe.***

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**

*Judy Fuller made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Betty Lu Davis. Discussion: Lise Harold asked if surplus could be allocated to the service awards program. FC Gillespie explained the reserve account can help save to replace fire trucks, and stated that our tanker is 22 years old, and will need to be replaced at 30 years old.* ***Article passes.***

**Ambulance Service**

1. To see if the Town will vote to accept the balance of funds from the Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Service for the purposes of paying expenses for Liberty Fire & Rescue beginning FY22.

*Elise Brown makes a motion to accept as read, seconded by Joe Meadows. Discussion- FC Bill Gillespie introduced Earle Albert: lifelong member of Liberty Ambulance, paramedic for many years, and now Deputy Chief of EMS. He mentioned that Earle has helped with the transition from non-profit to municipal. FC Gillespie explained that in the past Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Service was a private non-profit, and now it is all combined into Liberty Fire and Rescue. Melinda Steeves made a motion to move to a vote, seconded by Dorothy Thornton.* ***Article passes.***

1. To see if the Town will allow the Treasurer to accept and use revenue from Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Service billing to pay Liberty Fire & Rescue expenses beginning in FY22.

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Andre Blanchard. Discussion: Cindy Frost asked what percent is paid by insurance/patient. FC Gillespie stated 40-50% and that hopefully adding Palermo will help. Jane Bourassa asked who covers billing, and FC Gillespie stated that a 3rd party contract company handles billing, but not collections. He stated that they will do payment agreements.* ***Article passes.***

1. To see if the Town will appropriate from Liberty Fire & Rescue revenue $50,000 for expenses for FY23.

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Betty Lu Davis.* ***Article passes.***

1. To see if the Town will establish an Ambulance Vehicle Reserve Fund for the purpose of purchasing Liberty Fire & Rescue vehicles as needed and to allow for all unspent Liberty Fire & Rescue revenue, if any, at the end of each fiscal year to be added to the Vehicle Reserve Fund, to carry over until revoked.

*Elise Brown made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Melinda Steeves.* ***Article passes.***

1. To see if the Town will accept funds from other Municipalities to defray the cost of payroll expenses.

*Dana Philippi made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Dorothy Thornton. Discussion: Sara Salley asked why only for payroll? FC Gillespie explained that generated revenue covers other expenses, and as other towns come in, we will know more clearly.* ***Article passes.***

1. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate funds, from taxation, $80,000 to be used for payroll and training expenses for Liberty Fire & Rescue. If the Town of Palermo joins the Liberty/Montville service area prior to the start of FY23, payroll and training expenses will be reduced by $12,000 for a total of $68,000.

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read for $68,000, seconded by Elise Brown. Discussion: Jane Bourassa stated that Palermo did vote to join at their Town Meeting. Andrew made a motion to accept $68,000. Joe Meadows questioned if it should be accepted as read just in case. FC Bill Gillespie stated that it should be $68,000 and they can see how it goes for the year to have more knowledge and do contracts for other towns.* ***Article passes.***

**RECREATION ACCOUNT**

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Recreation Request** | **Adopted FY22** | **Agency Request** | **Recommended FY23** |
| Liberty/Montville Farm Team |  | $ 250 | $ 250 |
| Mt. View Little League |  | $ 100 | $ 100 |
| Swimming Lessons |  | $1,200 | $1,200 |
| Walker Bum League |  | $ 100 | $ 100 |
| YWCA | $ 250 | $ 250 | $ 250 |
| Recreation Fund | $2,050 |  | $ 500 |
| **TOTAL** | $2,300 |  | $2,400 |

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Andre Blanchard. Discussion: There was a question about “Bum League”, and it was clarified that Bum League is basketball.* ***Article passes.***

1. To see if the Town will accept reimbursements from the Town of Montville for maintenance of the recreation area. Montville has been formally requested to raise $2,000 for this account. **Recommendation: pass**

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Andre Blanchard.* ***Article passes.***

1. To see if the Town will accept funds from the State of Maine for Recreational Account (Income from the State Park estimated at $4,930.44)

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Duane Jewett.* ***Article Passes.***

1. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, the amount of $1,500 for Park Maintenance including portable toilets.

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Andre Blanchard.* ***Article Passes.***

**LIBERTY LIBRARY**

1. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, to help support operation of the Liberty Library.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **ADOPTED FY22** | **REQUEST**  | **RECOMMENDED FY23** |
| Liberty Library Operations | $5,000 | **$5,000** | **$5,000** |

*Dana Philippi made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Lise Harold. Discussion: Barb Rehmeyer stated that the Library did not request this amount, it was a budget committee recommendation. Jane Liebler said that it should be raised, seconded by Joe Meadows. There was discussion about the rising cost of heat and utilities. Jane Liebler made a motion to raise to $7,000, seconded by Andre Blanchard****. Article with amendment to $7,000 passes.***

**SOCIAL REQUESTS**

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **ADOPTED****FY22** | **AGENCY REQUEST** | **RECOMMENDED FY23** |
| AMVETS Food Pantry | $2,500 | $2,500 | $2,500 |
| Belfast Area Child Care Services | $ 500 | $ 500 | $ 500 |
| Citizens Association Liberty Lakes (CALL) | $ 300 | $ 400 | $ 400 |
| Garry Owen House | $ 350 | $ 350 | $ 350 |
| Hospice Volunteers of Waldo County | $ 600 | $ 500 | $ 500 |
| Liberty Historical Society | $ 600 | $ 600 | $ 600 |
| Liberty Bicentennial Celebration |  | $1,000 | $1,000 |
| Lifeflight | $ 913 | $ 913 | $ 913 |
| Maine Public Radio | $ 100 | $ 100 | $ 100 |
| Maine Youth Alliance-Game Loft | $ 400 | $ 400 | $ 400 |
| Mid-Coast Maine Community Action | $ 500 | $ 0 | $ 0 |
| New Hope Midcoast | $ 750 | $ 750 | $ 750 |
| Southwestern Waldo County Broadband Coalition | $500 | $ 0 | $ 0 |
| Spectrum Generations | $561.50 | $ 850 | $ 850 |
| Waldo Cap | $3446 | $4,942 | $4,942 |
| Waldo County Pet Food Pantry | $ 250 | $ 250 | $ 175 |
| Waldo County Woodshed | $ 500 | $1,000 | $1,000 |
| **TOTAL** | 12,520.50 | $15,055 | $14,980 |

*Cindy Frost made a motion to accept as read for $14,980, seconded by Judy Fuller. Richard King makes a motion to amend to remove $100 for Maine Public Radio and $175 for the pet food pantry. Not seconded, amendment fails. Lise Harold made a motion to amend and raise the pet food pantry by $25 for a total of $200, seconded by Beth Bartlett. Discussion about why the pet amount went down from last year. Dana Philippi spoke about what the Gary Owen House does, and mentioned that they are looking for help there and also for the Historical Society.* ***Article with amendment for $25 added to the pet food pantry, bringing the total up to $15,005, passes.***

**DEBT SERVICE**

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **ADOPTED FY 22** | **RECOMMENDED FY23** |
| Hostile Valley Bridge(Loan will be paid off Oct. 5, 2022) | $7,300 | $ 6,476 |
| Fire Truck | $37,099.43 | $33,710.27 |
| **TOTAL** | $44,399.43 | $40,186.27 |

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Betty Lu Davis.* ***Article passes.***

* 1. To see if the Town will appropriate $2,148.68 for interest payment of Fire Truck Bond Bank Loan in FY22.

*Elise Brown made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Melinda Steeves. Treasurer Hannah Hatfield specified that this will be coming out of Undesignated Funds.*  ***Article passes.***

**WALKER-OVERLOCK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

1. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, to supplement the July 2021 principal of $70,834 in the WOMS Account.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **ADOPTED FY22** | **REQUEST** | **RECOMMENDED FY23** |
| WOM Addition to Principle | $1,500 | $1,500 | $1,500 |

*Elise Brown made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Melinda Steeves.* ***Article passes.***

**MILEAGE**

1. 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. **Recommendation:** Adopt State Standard Mileage Rate: Current rate $.45/mile

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Betty Lu Davis. Clarification that “current rate” means that if the standard rate changes, ours will too.* ***Article passes.***

**PROPERTY TAXES**

1. To see if the Town will vote to have all taxes due and payable to the Tax Collector immediately upon Commitment and:
	1. To see if the Town will determine that the first half taxes not paid 30 days after Commitment are considered delinquent and second payment due first week of May, delinquent 1 day after due date. **Recommendation: pass**

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Dana Philippi.* ***Article passes.***

* 1. To see what sum of interest the Town will vote to charge on all liens and delinquent taxes. **Recommendation: 4%** (The maximum rate of interest that may be charged:4%)

*Judy Fuller made a motion to accept the recommended 4%, seconded by Jane Bourassa. Hannah Hatfield explained that this is the current State maximum. Bob Bourassa asked why we would pay that, and Sara Salley stated that is the cost the Town pays to enforce liens.* ***Article Passes with recommended 4%.***

* 1. To see if the Town will vote that a taxpayer who pays an amount more than 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.

**Recommendation: 1%**

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, with the previously passed 4% bringing the total to 0. Seconded by Andre Blanchard.* ***Article passes.***

* 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). **Recommendation: pass**

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Gail Philippi.* ***Article passes.***

* 1. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes for the 2022-23 year not yet committed. **Recommendation: pass**

*Earle Albert made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Sara Salley.* ***Article passes.***

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

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Duane Jewett.* ***Article passes.***

1. To see if the Town will accept and carry over any Education Block Grants, Emergency Protective Measure Grants, State Revenue Sharing and other funds as may be available to be used toward the FY2023 Budget appropriations. **Recommendation: pass**

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Duane Jewett.* ***Article passes.***

1. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to accept and expend additional funds received for the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) from Federal, State, County and other sources for Town purposes consistent with the restrictions of the program(s) for FY23. (Currently have $62,000 with $51000 additional expected \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Judy Fuller. Discussion about what funds will be used for, and trust that the Selectboard will do what’s best.* ***Article passes.***

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

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Duane Jewett.* ***Article passes.***

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 FY23 Municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limit. (Vote must be by written ballot.) **Recommendation: pass**

*Melinda Steeves made a motion to accept as read, seconded by Earle Albert.* ***Article passes.***

***Elise Brown made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Andre Blanchard.***

***Adjourn 11:07 AM.***

**GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS, THIS 26th DAY OF MARCH, 2022**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Melinda Steeves, First Selectman**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Andre Blanchard, Second Selectman**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Duane Jewett, Third Selectman**

**A True Copy: Attest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Beth Cohen, Clerk, Town of Liberty, Maine**