

## ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

**TO: Joy Robinson, Resident of the Town of Steuben, in the County of Washington,**

GREETINGS: In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Steuben, in said County qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs to meet at the Town Office Building on Monday the Fifth of March, 2012 for the purpose of choosing a moderator to preside at said meeting and to elect the following Town Officials by secret ballot, MRSA Title 30 Section 2061, the polls being open from 8 am to 8 pm for this purpose; One Selectman for a 3-year term, One Assessor for a 3-year term, One Overseer for a 3-year term, One Overseer for a 2-year term, One RSU 24 Board Member for a 3-year term, and One Local Advisory Committee Member for a 3-year Term.

**Article 1:** To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting:

Furthermore, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Steuben in said County qualified to vote in Town Affairs to meet at the Steuben Gymnasium and All Purpose Building, Saturday the Tenth of March, 2012 at 1 pm to act on the following articles to wit:

*Results of the election were read aloud. Dennis Sargent Sr. elected to board of Selectmen and Board of Assessors. Larry Pinkham elected as Overseer of the Poor 3 year. Chris Bell elected as Overseer of the Poor 2 year. Larry Pinkham elected to the RSU 24 Board and as LAC member. Declined LAC will serve as RSU Board member.*

**Article 2:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the Administration account.

Selectmen Recommend **\$74,000** (**\$74,000** from Taxes)

*Chris Bell motioned to carry with the recommended figure, seconded by David Glass. Passed with hand vote.*

**Article 3:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the Selectmen Salary account.

Selectmen Recommend **\$4,500**. (**\$4,500** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry with the recommended figure, seconded by Julie Ginn. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 4:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the Assessing account.

Selectmen Recommend **\$8,000**. (**\$8,000** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry with the recommended figure, seconded by Doris Bukowski. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 5:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the Code Enforcement Officer Salary (CEO) account.

Selectmen Recommend **\$2,500**. (**\$2,500** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry with the recommended figure, seconded by Doris. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 6:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the Licensed Plumbing Inspector (LPI) account.

Selectmen Recommend **\$2,500**. (**\$2,500** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry with the recommended figure, seconded by Doris. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 7:** To see if the Town of Steuben will vote to authorize the Selectmen to additionally compensate the plumbing inspector with 50% of the Plumbing Permit Fees.

Selectmen Recommend this article.

*Chris motioned to carry as read, seconded by Julie. Passed hand vote*

**Article 8:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the Administrative Assistant Salary account. (*Julie's position*)

Selectmen Recommend **\$29,120**. (**\$29,120** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry with the recommended figure, Doris seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 9:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the Office Clerk Salary account. (*Joy's position*)

Selectmen Recommend **\$21,660**. (**\$21,660** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry with the recommended figure, Doris seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 10:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the Health Insurance account.

Selectmen Recommend **\$14,000** (**\$14,000** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry with the recommended figure, Julie seconded. Passed hand vote*

**Article 11:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the Town Insurance accounts.

Selectmen Recommend **\$17,800** (**\$17,800** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry the recommended figure, Doris seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 12:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for

the Protection accounts.

Selectmen Recommend **\$46,900** (**\$46,900** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry with the recommended figure, Julie seconded. Roy Palmer – motioned to amend the article by cutting the cost of 15 streetlights, the motion was seconded. Motion to amend failed hand vote. Original article passed hand vote. Roy objected*

**Article 13:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate from Taxes, plus any income received for the Health & Sanitation account.

Selectmen Recommend **\$126,390** Plus Income  
(**\$126,390** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry with the recommended figure, Doris seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 14:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) account.

Selectmen Recommend **\$4,500** (**\$4,500** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry with the recommended figure, Doris seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 15:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the Public Roads account.

Selectmen Recommend **\$389,000**. (**\$199,000** from Taxes, **\$150,000** from Excise Taxes and **\$40,000** from State Urban-Rural Initiative Program)

*Chris motioned to carry with the recommended figure, Doris seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 16:** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the 2012 payment on the Road Loan.

Selectmen Recommend **\$127,740**. (**\$127,740** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry with the recommended figure, Doris seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 17:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the General Assistance account.

Selectmen Recommend **\$1,900.00** (**\$1,900.00** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry with the recommended figure, Doris seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 18:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the Cemeteries & Monuments account.

Selectmen Recommend **\$1,000.00** (**\$1,000.00** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry with the recommended figure, Doris seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 19:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the Community Activities account.

Total amount requested **\$13,618.00** (**\$13,618.00** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry with the recommended figure, Doris seconded. Julie motioned to allow non residents and non voters to speak. The motion was seconded and a unanimous vote approved. Gloria Moore motioned to amend to \$4,600. Delbert Pinkham seconded. (Gloria noted that she intended the figure to include \$350 for West Transportation, \$630 for Washington County Soil & Water, \$1,000 for WHCA, \$700 for Eastern Area Agency on Aging and \$1,620 for Maine Coast Memorial Hospital Prescription Drug Program. Amend passed on a written ballot 41 - 28. Vote as amended passed hand vote.*

**Article 20:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the Contingency account.

Selectmen Recommend **\$6,000** (**\$6,000** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry the article with the recommended figure, Julie seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 21:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate to pay annual stipends to members of the Steuben Volunteer Fire Department who attend a certain percentage, to be determined by the Fire Chief, of all trainings, meetings and calls.

Selectmen Recommend **\$6,000** (**\$6,000** from Taxes)

*Chris motioned to carry the article with the recommended figure, Julie seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 22:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for a reserve account to purchase a Fire Truck for the Steuben Volunteer Fire Department.

Selectmen Recommend **\$10,000** for this Article

*Chris motioned to carry the article with the recommended figure, Doris seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 23:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the Henry D. Moore Parish House and Library Operating account, not to exceed **\$9,250**.

Selectmen - No Recommendation

*Peter Weil motioned to carry the article as read, Delbert seconded. Carlton Pinkham Jr. motioned to amend the amount to \$5,000, seconded by Gloria. Motion failed by hand vote. Original article passed hand vote.*

**Article 24:** To see if the Town of Steuben will vote to appropriate the estimated 2012 revenue in the amount of \$ **40,000** to reduce the 2012 tax commitment.

Selectmen recommend this article

*Chris motioned to carry the article as read, Doris seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 25:** To see if the Town will vote to charge **7.0%** annual interest on all unpaid taxes.

Selectmen recommend this article

*Chris motioned to carry the article as read, Doris seconded. Chris motioned to amend to 4%, David seconded. Motion to amend passed hand. Vote as amended passed hand vote.*

**Article 26:** To see if the Town of Steuben will vote to fix the date when taxes shall be due and payable as September 30, 2012, with interest starting on October 1, 2012.

Selectmen recommend this article

*Chris motioned to carry as read, Dennis Sargent Sr. seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 27:** To see if the Town of Steuben will vote to authorize the municipal officers to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12ths of the budgeted amount in each budget category of the 2012 annual budget during the period from January 1, 2013 to the 2013 annual town meeting.

Selectmen recommend this article.

*Chris motioned to carry as read, Julie seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 28:** To see if the Town of Steuben will vote to maintain control of the Tunk Stream Alewife Rights.

Selectmen recommend this article.

*Chris motioned to carry as read, David seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 29:** To see if the Town of Steuben will vote to have unexpended balances in the Town Accounts at the end of the year lapsed to surplus except for those which remain by law or are deemed necessary by the Board of Selectmen to carry forward and expend.

Selectmen recommend this article

*Chris motioned to carry as read, David seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 30:** To see if the Town of Steuben will vote to authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed pursuant to 36 MRSA, Section 506.

Selectmen recommend this article.

*Chris motioned to carry as read, Doris seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 31:** To see if the Town of Steuben 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 the date of the overpayment, at the annual rate of 6%, pursuant to 36 MRSA, Section 506-A.

Selectmen recommend this article.

*Chris motioned to carry as read, Julie seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 32:** To see if the Town of Steuben will vote to authorize the Selectmen to sell unused equipment or other items with an estimate cash value of less than \$500 after advertising a public sale.

Selectmen recommend this article

*Chris motioned to carry as read, Julie seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 33:** To see if the Town of Steuben will vote to authorize the Selectmen to apply for and/or accept and expend, on behalf of the Town, money from Federal, State and other governmental units or private sources which may be received, from time to time in the form of Grants or any other source, during the period of March 10, 2012 until the next annual Town Meeting.

Selectmen recommend this article

*Chris motioned to carry as read, David seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 34:** To see if the Town of Steuben will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to convey any tax acquired property to the principal owner or taxpayer from whom it was acquired, upon payment to the Town of an amount equal to all taxes, together with interest and cost then owing upon said property. The taxes shall be computed as though the property had been assessed to the prior owner until the time of repurchase. The Selectmen may offer the property for sale through sealed bids to the highest bidder. Notice of any such property for sale shall be advertised in the local newspaper, or a paper having a circulation in the Town of Steuben once each week for three consecutive weeks before the last day on which bids may be received. All such offers shall be made with the right of the Selectmen to reject any and all bids. If no bids are received for at least 100% of the assessed value of the property offered for sale, the Selectmen shall reject all bids. If the property is offered for sale again, the Selectmen may accept the largest amount, therefore in their discretion. The Selectmen

may, in their discretion, retain for the Town any Tax Acquired property, which they feel would be beneficial to the Town, to be used for Municipal Purposes or have the property professionally appraised and either advertise it for sale for that price or place it in the hands of a real estate broker less any expenses.

Selectmen recommend this Article

*Chris motioned to carry as read, Julie seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 35:** To see if the Town of Steuben will vote to appropriate the money received from the State reimbursement for snowmobiles to the Narraguagus Snowmobile Club for the purpose of maintaining their snowmobile trails.

Selectmen recommend this article

*Chris motioned to carry as read, Doris seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 36:** To see if the Town of Steuben will vote to authorize the Selectmen to continue to transfer and expend the 2012 Shellfish Revenues to the Shellfish Conservation Reserve account. 2011 Ending Balance: \$3,679.50

Selectmen recommend this article

*Chris motioned to carry as read, Dennis seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 37:** To see if the Town of Steuben will vote to authorize the Selectmen to continue to transfer and expend the 2012 boat excise income to the Boat Ramp Reserve Account. 2011 Ending Balance: **\$21,598.**

Selectmen recommend this article.

*Chris motioned to carry as read, Dennis seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 38:** To see if the Town of Steuben will vote to authorize the Selectmen to use the overlay to pay for abatements.

Selectmen recommend this article.

*Chris motioned to carry as read, Doris seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 39:** To see if the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,500** for the purpose of purchasing and installing 2 new "Welcome to Steuben" signs and one "Steuben Town Office" sign.

Selectmen recommend this article

*Chris motioned to carry as read, Doris seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 40:** Shall the town increase the property tax levy limit of **\$596,565** established for the Town of Steuben by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit.

Selectmen recommend this article

*Done out of order, move to end of warrant. Julie motioned to carry the article and increase the property tax levy limit to \$597,860. Seconded by Joy. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 41:** To see if the Town of Steuben wants to pursue the options for withdrawing from RSU 24.

Selectmen recommend this article

*Chris motioned to carry as read, Doris seconded. Much discussion took place regarding this article. The article failed by a written ballot. 25-44*

**Article 42:** To see if the Town of Steuben will adopt an ordinance titled "Town of Steuben Barking Dog Ordinance".

Selectmen recommend this article

*Move to next town meeting.*

**Article 43:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for the purpose of paving the walking track at the Ella Lewis School.

*Delbert motioned to set the amount at \$0. Seconded by Melody Johnson. Delbert rescinded. Priscilla motioned to raise an amount up to \$5,000, motion was seconded. Passed hand vote.*

**Article 44:** To see what sum the Town of Steuben will vote to raise and appropriate for Legal Fees to be used towards the Rogers Point Town Landing issue.

*Chris motioned \$20,000 for the article; Joy seconded. Chris motioned to amend to take the money from surplus and to use the money towards acquiring piece of property for town landings. The amendment passed hand vote.*

A true copy

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Julie A. Ginn, Town Clerk