

TOWN OF GOULDSBORO
2023 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Hancock County

State of Maine

To: Patrick McNulty, Police Chief, Town of Gouldsboro

Greetings:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Gouldsboro in said County of Hancock, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Gouldsboro Community Center on Route 195, Pond Road, Gouldsboro on Tuesday, the thirteenth (13th) day of June, A. D. 2023 at Eight O'clock (8:00 AM) in the forenoon, then and there to act on Articles numbered 1 and 2.

You are also to notify and warn said voters to meet at the Peninsula School Gym on Main Street, Prospect Harbor on Wednesday, the fourteenth (14th) day of June, A. D. 2023 at Seven O'clock (7:00 PM) in the evening, then and there to act on Articles numbered 3 through 35, all of said Articles being set out below, to wit:

ARTICLE 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Deputy Town Clerk, Rachel Hudson, read the Greeting and Article 1. Motion by M. Metzler, 2nd by V. Rea to nominate Cheryl Brackett as Moderator. Motion by M. Metzler, 2nd by V. Rea to close nominations; passed 3/0. Moderator election passed 3/0. R. Hudson administered the oath of office to C. Brackett. The Moderator opened the polls.

ARTICLE 2. To elect the following Town Officials by secret ballot:

One Selectman 3 Year Term - Expires June 2026

Two Planning Board 3 Year Terms - Expires June 2026

Two hundred ninety three (293) votes cast.

Results of Selectman election:

Dana Rice 210*

Blank 30

Write In 53

Results of Planning Board election:

Deborah Bisson 106

Steven (Shepsi) Eaton 155*

Deirdre McArdle 136*

Jed West 125

Blank 58

Write In 6

MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE ELECTION:

ARTICLE 3. To choose the following members of the Budget Committee:

AJ Higgins 3 Year Term – Expires June 2026

Jay Bricker 3 Year Term – Expires June 2026

Tim Smith 3 Year Term – Expires June 2026

Paul Stewart 2 Year Term – Expires June 2025

Vacant 2 Year Term – Expires June 2025

Vacant 1 Year Term – Expires June 2024

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by L. Peterson, passed.

MUNICIPAL GENERAL FUND WARRANT ARTICLES:

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$435,536 for the General Administration Department of the municipal budget for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by J. Guest, passed.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$132,661 for the Services and Committees Department of the municipal budget for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by R. Henion, passed.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$141,024 for the Town Property Department of the municipal budget for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by R. Henion, passed.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$944,412 for the Public Safety Department of the municipal budget for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by R. Jones, 2nd by R. Henion, passed.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$806,260 for Public Works Department of the municipal budget for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by R. Henion, passed.

OTHER MUNICIPAL FINANCIAL WARRANT ARTICLES:

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$8,000 for the Dorcas Library request.

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron, passed.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$8,000 for the Historical Society request.

The Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron, passed.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$8,000 for the Schoodic Food Pantry.

The Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron, passed.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$330,000 for the Paving Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Paving Reserve as of April 2023 is \$164.

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron, passed.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for the Public Works Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Public Works Reserve as of April 2023 is \$9,608.

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron, passed.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the Jones Pond Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Jones Pond Reserve as of April 2023 is \$21,498.

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by B. Harmon, passed.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 for the Fire Equipment Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Fire Equipment Reserve as of April 2023 is \$67,327.

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd G. Perron, passed.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to transfer any remaining balance on June 30, 2024 from the Fire Department Division of the Public Safety Department to the Fire Department Equipment Reserve.

The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

Motion by G. Perron, 2nd by D. Rodgers, passed.

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for the Community Cemetery Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Community Cemetery Reserve as of April 2023 is \$2,204

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron, passed.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,000 for the Cruiser and Academy Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Cruiser and Academy Reserve as of April 2023 is \$15,296.

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron, passed.

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to transfer any remaining balance on June 30, 2024 from the Police Department Division of the Public Safety Department to the Police Cruiser and Academy Reserve.

The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron, passed.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the Legal and Executive Search Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Legal and Executive Search Reserve as of April 2023 is 72,863.

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron, passed.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the Buildings and Grounds Reserve. (\$10,000 earmarked for a 4-year plan of fire station roof replacements).

Estimated balance in the Buildings and Grounds Reserve as of April 2023 is \$40,255

(\$20,000 earmarked for fire station roof replacement).

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron, passed.

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to retain \$10,000 from the EMS Reserve and transfer the remaining balance from EMS Reserve to the general fund to offset medical/ambulance services.

Estimated balance in the EMS Reserve as of April 2023 is \$105,003

The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron, passed.

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 for the Ambulance Reserve.

*Estimated balance in the Ambulance Reserve as of April 2023 is \$18,500.
The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.*

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron, passed.

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a maximum of \$150,000 from Undesignated Fund Balance (surplus) to offset taxes, if necessary and available.

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron, passed.

THIRD PARTY AND OUTSIDE AGENCY WARRANT ARTICLES

The following organizations requested contributions from the Town of Gouldsboro for Fiscal Year 2023/2024:

Red Cross \$190, Community Health and Counseling \$400, Downeast Community Partners \$8,702, Downeast Transportation \$600, Eastern Area Agency on Aging \$600, Ellsworth Free Medical Clinic \$500-1000, Ellsworth Public Library \$5,109, Emmaus Homeless Shelter \$1,500, Families First Community Center \$450, Hospice Hancock County \$1,000, The Lifeflight Foundation \$852, Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry \$500, Maine Public Radio \$100, Narraguagus American Legion \$500, Northern Light Home Care & Hospice \$500, WIC Nutrition Program \$1,350, YMCA \$2,500.

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for the following organizations:

- The sum of \$300 for Community Health and Counseling
- The sum of \$300 for Downeast Community Partners
- The sum of \$300 for Eastern Area Agency on Aging
- The sum of \$300 for Emmaus Homeless Shelter
- The sum of \$300 for Families First Community Center
- The sum of \$300 for Hospice Volunteers of Hancock County
- The sum of \$300 for The Life Flight Foundation
- The sum of \$300 for WIC Program
- The sum of \$300 for Loaves and Fishes
- The sum of \$300 for Northern Light Home Care & Hospice Foundation

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by L. Peterson, passed.

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise general funds to donate to tax-exempt organizations (charities) during the next budget cycle.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by R. Jones, passed.

OTHER WARRANT ARTICLES

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to have the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 taxes due in two installments: half to be due on or before October 31, 2023 and the other half to be due on or before March 31, 2024 and to have interest charged at the annual rate of 8% on any taxes unpaid after the due dates.

The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by R. Henion, passed.

ARTICLE 28. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the select board to enter into multi-year contracts for public services.

The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron, passed.

ARTICLE 29. To see if the Town will vote to retain the right to control the harvesting of alewives.
The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

. Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron, passed.

ARTICLE 30. To see if the Town will approve amendments to the Harbor Ordinance.
The Board of Selectmen and Harbor Committee recommend approval.

**. Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron
Approved, 70 Yes/46 No (raise of hands)**

ARTICLE 31. To see if the Town will approve amendments to the Site Plan Ordinance.
The Board of Selectmen and Planning Board recommend approval

. Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by R. Jones, passed.

ARTICLE 32. To see if the Town will vote to establish an Ordinance entitled Gouldsboro Fireworks Ordinance.
The Board of Selectmen do not recommend approval.

. Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by G. Perron

This was a citizen petition brought to the Select Board by Roger Bowen with the proper number of validated signatures. Mr. Bowen presented the issues regarding fireworks in Gouldsboro.

Motion by Mr. Rodgers to move the question, 2nd by R. Jones, passed.

Original Motion of Article 32, failed.

ARTICLE 33. To see if the Town will vote to accept donations by the Ray Scholarship Fund for the benefit of Gouldsboro students at Sumner High School.

The Board of Selectmen recommend approval.

. Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by R. Henion, passed.

ARTICLE 34: To see if the Town will vote to increase the Property Tax Levy Limit established by State Law, in the event that the municipal budget approved at this town meeting results in a tax commitment in excess of the maximum property tax levy otherwise applicable, such that the increased maximum property tax levy hereby established will equal the amount committed.

The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend approval.

. Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by R. Henion, passed.

ARTICLE 35. To see if the Town will vote to set the next Town Meeting as the second Tuesday in June 2024, to start at 8AM.

. Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by R. Henion, passed.

The Registrar of Voters, or Deputy, hereby gives notice that she will be in session at the Community Center on the Pond Road from 8AM until 8PM on the day of the election, Tuesday, June 13, 2023, and at 6PM at the Peninsula School on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 for the purpose of revising and correcting the list of registered voters.

Motion by D. Rodgers, 2nd by R. Henion to adjourn at 8:21PM.

Warrant signed by Dana Rice, Robert Harmon, Danny Mitchell Jr., Peter McKenzie and Jacqueline Weaver.

Attest: *Gvonne P. Wilkinson*
Gvonne P. Wilkinson, Town Clerk
Town of Gouldsboro