

TOWN OF WILTON ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Tuesday, June 8, 2021
Monday, June 14, 2021

TO: Heidi Wilcox, a Constable of the Town of Wilton, in the County of Franklin and 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 Wilton in said County and State qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to appear at the **Town Office, 158 Weld Road in said town on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 8:00 AM**, then and there to act upon Articles 1 and 2. The polls will be open for voting on Article 2 from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM, at which time the meeting will be recessed; the recessed meeting will be reconvened at the former **Western Maine Development Complex parking lot, 128 Weld Road in said town on Monday, June 14, 2021 at 6:00 PM**, then and there to act on Articles 3 through 64 as set out below, to wit:

ARTICLE 1: To elect a **Moderator** to preside at said meeting.

ARTICLE 2: To elect all **Municipal Officers** and **School Committee** members as are required to be elected.

ARTICLE 3: Shall an ordinance entitled “2021 Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Wilton Regarding Signs” be enacted?

(The proposed ordinance is available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office and will be available at the Town Meeting.)

Planning Board recommends: Yes

ARTICLE 4: Shall an ordinance entitled “2021 Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Wilton Regarding Marinas” be enacted?

(The proposed ordinance is available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office and will be available at the Town Meeting.)

Planning Board recommends: Yes

ARTICLE 5: Shall an ordinance entitled “2021 Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Wilton Regarding Piers, Docks and Wharfs to Be Consistent with the State’s Minimum Shoreland Zoning Guidelines” be enacted?

(The proposed ordinance is available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office and will be available at the Town Meeting.)

Planning Board recommends: Yes

ARTICLE 6: Shall an ordinance entitled “2021 Adult Use and Medical Marijuana Ordinance” be enacted, thereby repealing and replacing the current “Adult Use and Medical Marijuana Stores, Cultivation Facilities, Manufacturing Facilities, and Testing Facilities Ordinance” adopted August 17, 2020?

(The proposed ordinance is available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office and will be available at the Town Meeting.)

Planning Board recommends: Yes

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to negotiate and enter into an agreement with Matrix Connected Fiber (Matrix) for a private/public partnership to make “fiber to the home” broadband telecommunications service available to all 911 addresses in the Town that do not currently have cable service, on such terms and conditions as the Selectboard deems to be in the best interests of the Town, provided that the total project cost to the Town will not exceed \$315,421 and which project funding would require subsequent Town Meeting approval.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to convey to Wilton’s State Legislators, Members of Congress, Governor, and President of the United States that the Town hereby calls upon its elected representatives to enact carbon-pricing legislation to protect Maine from the costs and environmental risks of continued climate inaction, and to support Cash-Back Carbon Pricing that charges fossil fuel producers for their carbon pollution and rebates the money collected to all residents on an equal basis with monthly dividend checks, with the record of any vote to approve this article to be transmitted by the Selectboard by written notice to the above mentioned parties within 30 days of the vote.

ARTICLE 9: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Selectpersons and Overseers'** compensation and expenses.

Adopted 2020-21: \$9,000 Selectboard Recommends: **\$9,000** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: **\$9,000** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$9,000** - vote 7-0

ARTICLE 10: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Planning and Code Enforcement** activities.

Adopted 2020-21: \$24,500 Selectboard Recommends: **\$24,500** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: **\$24,500** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$24,500** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 11: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **General Government Administration.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$294,400 Selectboard Recommends: **\$308,375** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: **\$308,375** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$308,375** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 12: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **General Government Building** Account.

Adopted 2020-21: \$20,000 Selectboard Recommends: **\$22,000** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: **\$20,000** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$22,000** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 13: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Revaluation/Equalization Capital** Account.

Adopted 2020-21: \$10,000 Selectboard Recommends: **\$10,000** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: **\$10,000** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$10,000** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 14: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Assessing** activities.

Adopted 2020-21: \$39,125 Selectboard Recommends: **\$39,125** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: **\$39,125** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$39,125** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 15: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Contingent and Legal** Account.

Adopted 2020-21: \$19,000 Selectboard Recommends: **\$17,000** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: **\$17,000** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$17,000** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 16: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Insurance** Account.

Adopted 2020-21: \$70,500 Selectboard Recommends: **\$94,000** - vote 5-0

Proposed 2021-22: \$94,000 Finance Committee Recommends: **\$94,000** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 17: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Pension and Benefits Reserve Account.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$ 0 Selectboard Recommends: **\$10,000** - vote 4-1
Proposed 2021-22: \$20,500 Finance Committee Recommends: **\$10,000** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 18: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Police Department.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$574,557 Selectboard Recommends: **\$589,551** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: \$589,551 Finance Committee Recommends: **\$589,551** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 19: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Fire Department.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$191,538 Selectboard Recommends: **\$195,338** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: \$195,538 Finance Committee Recommends: **\$195,338** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 20: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Public Safety Building (Fire/Police Station).**

Adopted 2020-21: \$34,804 Selectboard Recommends: **\$45,104** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: \$45,104 Finance Committee Recommends: **\$45,104** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 21: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Northstar Ambulance Subsidy.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$20,430 Selectboard Recommends: **\$21,103** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: \$21,103 Finance Committee Recommends: **\$21,103** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 22: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Street and Traffic Lighting.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$27,600 Selectboard Recommends: **\$27,400** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: \$27,400 Finance Committee Recommends: **\$27,400** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 23: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Public Fire Protection.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$175,000 Selectboard Recommends: **\$175,000** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: \$175,000 Finance Committee Recommends: **\$175,000** - vote 8-0

Note: Public Utilities Commission regulations require a portion of water utility revenue to come from public fire protection payments. For utilities the size of Wilton, this figure is 30%. The

rate tariff under which the Town operates requires that funds up to 30% of total water revenue come from so-called “hydrant rental.” This article appropriates funds to satisfy that requirement.

ARTICLE 24: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Highway Department.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$963,750 Selectboard Recommends: **\$983,250** - vote 3-2
Proposed 2021-22: **\$983,250** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$983,250** - vote 6-2

ARTICLE 25: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Public Works Building (Town Garage) Account.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$14,000 Selectboard Recommends: **\$14,000** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: **\$14,000** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$14,000** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 26: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Capital Paving.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$320,000 Selectboard Recommends: **\$591,000*** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: **\$591,000** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$591,000**** - vote 6-0

*Selectboard Recommends to raise \$326,000 and appropriate \$591,000, with \$265,000 appropriated from Unassigned Fund Balance (surplus) - vote 5-0

**Finance Committee Recommends to raise \$326,000 and appropriate \$591,000, with \$265,000 appropriated from Unassigned Fund Balance – vote 6-0

ARTICLE 27: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Transfer Station and Recycling Department.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$277,000 Selectboard Recommends: **\$277,250** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: **\$277,250** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$277,250** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 28: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Cemetery Operations.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$48,800
Proposed 2021-22: **\$51,200**

Selectboard Recommends to raise \$25,600 and appropriate \$51,200, with \$25,600 appropriated from the Cemetery Trust Fund - vote 5-0

Finance Committee Recommends to raise \$25,600 and appropriate \$51,200, with \$25,600 appropriated from the Cemetery Trust Fund – vote 8-0

ARTICLE 36: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Town's **Conservation Commission.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$365 Selectboard Recommends: **\$ 365** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: **\$365** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$ 365** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 37: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Blueberry Festival.**

Adopted 2020-21 \$0 Selectboard Recommends: **\$3,000** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: **\$3,000** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$3,000** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 38: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Franklin County Chamber of Commerce.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$1,500 Selectboard Recommends: **\$1,500** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: **\$1,500** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$1,500** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 39: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Greater Franklin Development Council.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$4,000 Selectboard Recommends: **\$4,000** - vote 3-2
Proposed 2021-22: **\$4,000** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$3,000** - vote 6-2

ARTICLE 40: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Wilton Area Food Pantry.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$3,000 Selectboard Recommends: **\$3,200** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: **\$3,000** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$3,200** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 41: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Tri-County Area **Safe Voices** agency.

Adopted 2020-21: \$3,000 Selectboard Recommends: **\$3,000** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: **\$3,000** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$3,000** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 42: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Services** agency.

Adopted 2020-21: \$3,000 Selectboard Recommends: **\$3,000** - vote 5-0
Proposed 2021-22: **\$3,000** Finance Committee Recommends: **\$3,000** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 43: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Life Flight** agency.

Adopted 2020-21: \$1,029
Proposed 2021-22: \$1,029

Selectboard Recommends: **\$1,029** - vote 5-0
Finance Committee Recommends: **\$1,029** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 44: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Western Maine Transportation.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$3,399
Proposed 2021-22: \$3,406

Selectboard Recommends: **\$3,400** - vote 5-0
Finance Committee Recommends: **\$3,400** - vote 8-0

ARTICLE 45: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Senior's Plus.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$3,000
Proposed 2021-22: \$3,000

Selectboard Recommends: **\$3,000** vote 5-0
Finance Committee Recommends: **\$3,000** -vote 8-0

ARTICLE 46: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **New Beginnings.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$500
Proposed 2021-22: \$500

Selectboard Recommends: **\$500** - vote 5-0
Finance Committee Recommends: **\$500** - vote 7-1

ARTICLE 47: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Kennebec Behavioral Health.**

Adopted 2020-21: \$0
Proposed 2021-22: \$300

Selectboard Recommends: **\$300** - vote 3-2
Finance Committee Recommends: **\$300** - vote 3-2

ARTICLE 48: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$30,000** from the **Comfort Inn Omnibus Municipal Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District to pay a portion of the annual Waste Treatment Phase I Rural Development loan.**

Selectboard Recommends appropriating **\$30,000** from Comfort Inn TIF District: Yes – vote 5-0
Finance Committee Recommends appropriating **\$30,000** from Comfort Inn TIF District: Yes – vote 8-0

Note: This article provides a partial payment for the sixth payment of a thirty-year loan for the Waste Treatment Plant Pump Station upgrade – Phase I. Ratepayers will cover the remainder of the debt service.

ARTICLE 49: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$54,441.25** from the **Comfort Inn Omnibus Municipal Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District to pay the annual lease/purchase payment for the 2013 HME 78' Aerial Quint Fire Truck.**

Selectboard Recommends appropriating **\$54,541.25** from the Comfort Inn TIF District:
Yes – vote 5-0

Finance Committee Recommends raising **\$54,441.25** from the Comfort Inn TIF District
Yes – vote 8-0

Note: This is the eighth payment on the eleven-year loan (first year was a partial payment).

ARTICLE 50: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$100,000** from **Unassigned Fund Balance** for the **Wilson Lake Wall Capital Account**.

Selectboard Recommends appropriating **\$100,000** from Unassigned Fund Balance:

Yes – vote 5-0

Finance Committee Recommends appropriating **\$100,000** from Unassigned Fund Balance:

Yes – vote 8-0

Note: Funds to be used toward continued engineering costs and replacement of the Wilson Lake retaining wall costs.

ARTICLE 51: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to apply, on behalf of the Town, for federal financial assistance under the provisions of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, Public Law 88-578, for the development of the Wilson Lake Retaining Wall and Park, and to further authorize the Selectboard to enter into a Land and Water Conservation Fund Project Agreement with the State of Maine after federal approval of the project.

Recommended by the Selectboard

ARTICLE 52: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$100,000** from **Unassigned Fund Balance** to pay the forth payment of the **Development Fund Brownfields Promissory Note** to the State of Maine (\$50,000) and the third payment to **Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments** (\$50,000).

Selectboard Recommends appropriating **\$100,000** from Unassigned Fund Balance:

Yes – vote 5-0

Finance Committee Recommends appropriating **\$100,000** from Unassigned Fund Balance:

Yes – vote 6-0

Note: This article provides funds to make the repayments of loans for the demolition of the former Forster Mill site.

ARTICLE 53: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate all **REVENUES** received that are not dedicated or otherwise appropriated for other expenses to reduce the 2021-22 tax commitment, and to allow the Selectboard to appropriate funds from Unassigned Fund Balance as its deems advisable and in accordance with the Unassigned Fund Balance Policy to reduce the 2021-22 tax commitment. **Estimated Revenue amount: \$1,201,000**

Selectboard Recommends: **\$1,201,000** - vote 5-0

Finance Committee Recommends: **\$1,201,000** - vote 6-0

Note: This article authorizes the application of non-property tax revenue received from July 1, 2021 until June 30, 2022 to the gross budget appropriation set forth in the previous warrant articles, thereby reducing the property tax impact on the citizens. These revenues are estimated.

ARTICLE 54: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate up to **\$50,000** from **Unassigned Fund Balance** to respond to unanticipated expenses and/or emergency conditions during fiscal year 2021-22, as the Selectboard deems advisable.

Note: If no unanticipated expenses or emergencies occur, the money stays in surplus.

Recommended by the Selectboard

ARTICLE 55: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the full amount of the **2021-22 Beeline Cable Franchise** fees, estimated at **\$30,000**, for the benefit of Beeline Cable subscribers, to be expended or allocated at the direction of the Selectboard.

Recommended by the Selectboard

Note: The Selectboard has annually allocated this money to Mt. Blue TV, Channel 11. These franchise fees have been paid by the subscribers of Beeline Cable. These franchise fees are not raised through the municipal property taxes.

ARTICLE 56: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **100% of the refund** of Snowmobile Registrations, received annually from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, to the Woodland Wanderers Snowmobile Club for maintaining trails and bridges, on the condition that those trails be open to the public for snowmobile purposes at no charge in the snow season.

Recommended by the Selectboard

Note: The amount of the refund for the current year ending June 30, 2021 was \$1,469.64.

ARTICLE 57: (Written ballot required by State statute). To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of established for the Town of Wilton by State law, but only 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.

ARTICLE 58: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the **Selectboard to overdraft accounts with uncontrollable expenditures** when necessary.

Recommended by the Selectboard

ARTICLE 59: To see if the Town will vote, in accordance with 36 M.R.S. § 506, to authorize the Tax Collector and Town Treasurer to accept **prepayment of taxes** not yet committed and to pay no interest thereon.

Recommended by the Selectboard

ARTICLE 60: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to accept, on behalf of the Town, **unconditional and conditional gifts of money or property** excluding roads, rights of way, and easements and provided that no single gift will obligate the Town to incur liabilities that total \$1,000 or more per year, as determined by the Selectboard.

Recommended by the Selectboard

ARTICLE 61: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard, following a public hearing, to **dispose of tax acquired property in any manner the Selectboard deems to be in the best interests of the Town** and to execute quitclaim deeds for such property; provided, however, that the Selectboard shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. § 943-C for qualifying homestead property if it chooses to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s).

Recommended by the Selectboard

ARTICLE 62: To see if the Town will vote that the **first half of Real and Personal Property Taxes be due and payable on November 1, 2021**, and that the **second half of Real and Personal Property Taxes be due and payable on May 2, 2022**, and that **interest** at the rate of **6.0%** per annum be charged on the unpaid balance beginning **November 2, 2021 and May 3, 2022**, respectively.

Note: Per 36 M.R.S. § 505(4), the maximum rate of interest that can be charged is 6%; the Treasurer of State sets this rate each year.

Recommended by the Selectboard

ARTICLE 63: To see if the Town will vote to set the **interest rate** paid by the Town on abated taxes at **2.0%** per annum for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and to authorize such interest paid or abatements granted to be appropriated from overlay funds or, if necessary, from unassigned fund balance (surplus).

Note: 36 M.R.S. § 506-A provides the rate of interest may not exceed the rate set for delinquent taxes, nor be less than that rate reduced by 4%.

Recommended by the Selectboard

ARTICLE 64: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to apply for State, federal (including Community Development Block Grants) and other grants on the Town's behalf for purposes deemed by the Selectboard to be in the best interests of the Town; to accept such grants, including, when necessary, the authority to sign contracts and related documents and to accept conditions of approval; and to appropriate such grant funds for any purpose for which the Town has appropriated funds in FY 2021-2022.

Recommended by the Selectboard

Notice is hereby given that the Registrar of Voters is in session at the Wilton Town Office on Mondays and Tuesdays from 8:30 AM until 4:30 PM and Thursdays and Fridays from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM to correct the voting list and accept new registrations.

Given under our hands at Wilton, Maine, this 4th day of May, 2021.

TOWN OF WILTON SELECTBOARD

Keith Swett, Chairperson

David Leavitt, Vice Chairperson

Tom Saviello

Tiffany Maiuri

Philip Hilton

A True Copy. Attest: _____, Diane Dunham, Town Clerk