

Sabattus Annual Town Meeting
Thursday, June 4, 2026

ARTICLE - 1



To choose a moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

Vote to Allow Non-residents to Speak



- **Raquel Welch, Town Manager**
- **Thomas Williams, Town Clerk**
- **Jeff Goss, Chief of Police**
- **Jerry Sabins, Transfer Station Manager**
- **Robert Bradley, Public Works Supervisor**
- **Nick Merry, Fire Chief**
- **Any Representative of Non-Profit Agencies Requesting Town Funds**

ARTICLE - 2



To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 M.R.S.A. Section 505(1), will vote that the tax lists specified in 36 M.R.S.A. Section 709 be committed for collection on or before September 3, 2026.

Board of Selectmen Ought to Pass

ARTICLE - 3



To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 M.R.S.A. Section 505(2) will vote to establish September 3, 2026 or 30 days after the tax bills are postmarked and mailed, whichever is later, and March 11, 2027 as the respective first and second payment due dates for the 2027 fiscal yea taxes.

Board of Selectmen Ought to Pass

ARTICLE - 4



To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 M.R.S.A. Section 505(4), will vote that property taxes shall be delinquent if not paid by the dates established in Article 3 and that interest, at the rate of 7% per annum, shall be charged on all delinquent property taxes.

Board of Selectmen Ought to Pass

ARTICLE - 5



To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506-A, 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 7%.

Board of Selectmen Ought to Pass

ARTICLE - 6



To see if the Town will vote to authorize the tax collector to accept prepayment of taxes, the amount collected not to exceed the previous year's taxes. Interest on any prepayment will be zero (0) percent.

ARTICLE - 7



To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard and the Treasurer to receive and appropriate all non-property tax revenues to reduce the property tax commitment for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

***The Town Charter requires that a minimum amount equal to 25% of the collected FY26 Excise Taxes be restricted for sole use to maintain and construct roads in Sabattus and cannot be used to lower the tax rate.*

ARTICLE - 8



To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to dispose of surplus personal property with an estimated value of \$3,000 or less on such terms as they deem advisable.

ARTICLE - 9



To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers and Treasurer, on behalf of the Town, to accept gifts, real estate, and funds, including trust funds, that may be given or left to the Town.

ARTICLE - 10



To see if the Town will vote to appropriate OVERLAY of an amount not to exceed the state limitation in the calculation as set by the annual Municipal Valuation Return to cover abatements during the fiscal year.

SELECTBOARD

OUGHT TO PASS

Article - 11



To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to use up to \$25,000 from undesignated fund balance in the event of overdrafts, unforeseen events or emergencies. Any use of this contingency arrangement must be voted on at a Select Board meeting and the expenditures made will be listed in the subsequent town report. Transfer of undesignated revenues in excess of \$25,000 must be authorized by the vote of a special town meeting.

SELECTBOARD

OUGHT TO PASS

Proposed Operational Budget




Changes



The following slides illustrate expense reallocations across cost centers to align costs with the departments incurring them, providing a more accurate representation of departmental operating expenses.

Budget Differences



	Last Year	This Year	Difference
Admin	493,279	763,988	INC 270,709
Code Officer	75,208	112,523	INC 37,315
Police	793,943	1,088,447	INC 294,504
ACO	29,742	31,010	INC 1,268
Fire	543,250	903,571	INC 360,321
EMS-1 st RES	30,217	18,535	DEC 11,682
Pub Works	915,660	1,218,656	INC 302,996
Transfer S.	331,381	388,799	INC 57,418
Payroll Tax & Retirement	385,047	0	DEC 385,407
Insurances	502,792	22,500	DEC 479,534
Other Ins.	53,675	0	DEC 53,675
Boards & Co	20,850	25,118	INC 4568

Budget Differences



	Last Year	This Year	Difference
Professional Services	113,665	103,655	DEC 10,000
Stormwater	22,200	30,850	INC 8,650
Dispatch	77,000	73,000	DEC 4,000
Utilities	209,202	148,408	DEC 60,794
Organizations/ Non-Profits	26,950	30,400	INC 3,450
General Assistance	2,000	2,000	0
Totals	4,626,051	4,961,460	INC 335,409

Exact Budget Changes Per Department



The following slide shows actual department costs, comparing this year to last year on an apples- to- apples basis so residents can clearly see what has changed.

Actual Department Differences



	Last Year	This Year	Difference
Admin	493,279	509,042	INC 15,763
Code	75,208	78,024	INC 2,816
Police	793,943	806,012	INC 12,069
Fire	543,250	673,407.24	INC 130,157.24
Public Wks	915,660	941,114.80	INC 25,454.80
Transfer Stn	331,381	333,248.36	INC 1,867.36
EMS	30,217	18,535	DEC 11,682

ARTICLE - 12



To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$763,988 to fund ADMINISTRATION.

Board of Selectmen
Budget Committee

Ought to Pass @ \$763,988
Ought to Pass @ \$717,186

<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY25</u>
\$450,846	\$493,279

Budget difference is \$46,202. The budget committee gave 1 employee a raise (which changes taxes paid), cut health care premiums and retirement, eliminated cleaning, cut heat and electric.

ARTICLE - 13



To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$112,523 to fund CODE ENFORCEMENT.

Board of Selectmen

Ought to Pass @ \$112,523

Budget Committee

Ought to Pass @ \$112,523

FY24

\$69,400

FY25

\$75,208

ARTICLE - 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,088,447 to fund the POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Board of Selectmen	Ought to Pass @	\$1,088,447
Budget Committee	Ought to Pass @	\$1,077,847

<u>FY 24</u>	<u>FY 25</u>
\$1,067,970	\$1,077,847

Budget difference \$10,600. Budget committee gave additional wages -cut general equipment.

ARTICLE -15



To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,010 to fund ANIMAL CONTROL.

Board of Selectmen
Budget Committee

Ought to Pass @
Ought to Pass @

\$31,010
\$31,010

FY24
\$27,511

FY25
\$29,742

ARTICLE - 16



To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$903,571 to fund the FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Board of Selectmen
Budget Committee

Ought to Pass @
Ought to Pass @

\$903,571
\$903,571

FY24
\$386,582

FY25
\$543,250

ARTICLE 17



To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,535 to fund the EMERGENCY FIRST RESPONDER PROGRAM (EMS).

Board of Selectmen
Budget Committee

Ought to Pass @ \$18,535
Ought to Pass @ \$18,535

FY24
\$18,535

FY25
\$18,535

ARTICLE - 18



To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,218,656 to fund the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Board of Selectmen	Ought to Pass @	\$1,218,656
Budget Committee	Ought to Pass @	\$1,200,993

	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY25</u>
	\$922,208	\$915,660

Budget difference \$17,663. Budget committee reduced building maintenance and fleet maintenance.

ARTICLE - 19



To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$393,199 to fund the TRANSFER STATION.

Board of Selectmen	Ought to pass @	\$388,799
Budget Committee	Ought to pass @	\$393,199

<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY25</u>
\$325,384	\$331,381

Budget difference \$4,400. Budget committee gave \$1.00 raises to part time employees, selectmen gave 3%.

ARTICLE - 20



To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,118 to fund the **BOARDS & COMMITTEES.**

Board of Selectmen
Budget Committee

Ought to Pass @
Ought to Pass @

\$25,118
\$25,118

FY24
\$20,000

FY25
\$20,850

ARTICLE - 21



To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$103,655 to fund PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.

Board of Selectmen

\$ 40,000	Legal
\$ 0	Engineering
\$ 4,000	Contract
\$ 19,000	Audit
\$ 40,655	Annual Assessment

\$ 103,655 Total

Board of Selectmen
Budget Committee

Budget Committee

\$40,000	Legal
\$ 0	Engineering
\$ 4,000	Contract
\$19,000	Audit
\$39,355	Annual Assessment

\$102,355 Total

Ought to Pass @ \$ 103,655
Ought to Pass @ \$ 102,355

FY24

\$95,155

FY25

\$113,655

Budget difference \$1300. Budget committee reduced mapping program fee. This is the fee for our digital maps.

ARTICLE - 22



To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,850 to fund STORMWATER MANAGEMENT.

Board of Selectmen	Ought to Pass @	\$30,850
Budget Committee	Ought to Pass @	\$28,750

<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY25</u>
\$32,850	\$22,200

Budget difference \$2100. Budget committee reduced requested amount from Stillwater Environmental.

ARTICLE - 23



To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$73,000 to fund DISPATCH & E911/PSAP services.

Board of Selectmen
Budget Committee

Ought to Pass @
Ought to Pass @

\$73,000
\$73,000

FY24
\$74,253

FY25
\$77,000

ARTICLE - 24



To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$21,322 to fund ORGANIZATIONS.

Organization	Amount
Maine Municipal Association	\$6,500
Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments	\$6,700
Sabattus Lake Dam Commission	\$3,000
Sabattus Mountaineers	\$1,500
Sabattus Veterans Festivities	\$1,500/\$1,422
Martin's Point	\$1,400/\$2,200

Board of Selectmen
Budget Committee

Ought to Pass \$20,600
Ought to Pass \$21,322

FY24
\$17,311

FY25
\$18,650

ARTICLE - 25



To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$148,408 to fund PUBLIC UTILITIES.

\$ 0	Operational Utilities
\$ 15,000	Street Lighting
\$ 133,408	Sanitary District/Water Division (PUC mandated)
\$148,408	Total

Board of Selectmen	Ought to Pass	\$148,408
Budget Committee	Ought to Pass	\$148,408

<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY25</u>
\$181,275	\$209,202

ARTICLE - 26



To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,800 to fund NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.

Non-Profit Organizations	Board of Selectmen	Budget Committee
Rural Community Action Ministry	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Safe Voices	\$ 2,200	\$ 2,200
Seniors Plus	\$2,000	\$2,000
Community Cares Backpack Program	\$1,000	\$1,000
Sabattus Historical Society	\$600	\$600
Sabattus Rec	\$1,000	\$1,000
Total	\$9,800	\$ 9,800

Board of Selectmen
Budget Committee

Ought to Pass \$9,800
Ought to Pass \$9,800

FY24
\$9,161

FY25
\$8,300

ARTICLE 27



To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,000 from a special revenue account to fund GENERAL ASSISTANCE.

Board of Selectmen
Budget Committee

Ought to Pass @ \$2,000
Ought to Pass @ \$2,000

FY24
\$2,000

FY25
\$2,000

ARTICLE 28



To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$10,000 from the Town’s “Undesignated Fund Balance” to create a Paid Time Off Liability Reserve Account.

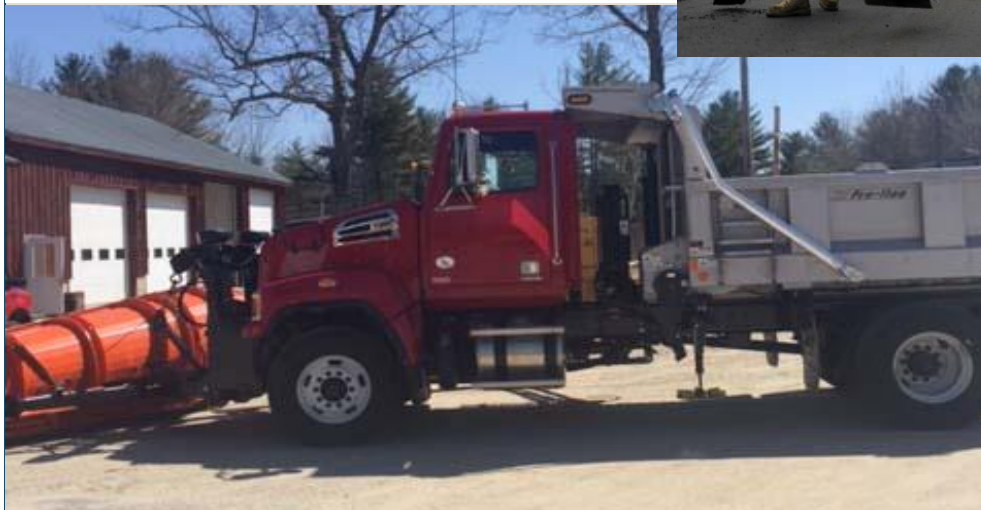
Board of Selectmen

Ought to Pass \$10,000

Budget Committee

Ought to Pass \$10,000

Proposed FY 26 Capital Improvement & Equipment



ARTICLE 29



To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$15,000 from the town’s “Undesignated Fund Balance” to reseal the parking lot at the town office.

****\$15,000 was appropriated last year but bids to complete work came in much higher.**

Board of Selectmen Ought to Pass @\$15,000

Budget Committee Ought to Pass @\$15,000

ARTICLE 30



To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$185,000 from the Town’s “Undesignated Fund Balance” for the future re-evaluation of the town.

Board of Selectmen
Budget Committee

Ought to Pass @ \$185,000
Ought to Pass @ \$185,000

ARTICLE 31



To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$25,000 for the 2nd (second) of 6 (six) contractual payments for Axon tasers and cameras from the Towns “Undesignated Fund Balance account”.

Board of Selectmen
Budget Committee

Ought to Pass @ \$25,000
Ought to Pass @ \$25,000

ARTICLE 32



To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$55,793 for the 6th (sixth) of 10 (ten) annual debt service payments for the 2020 fire engine from the Undesignated Fund Balance account.

Board of Selectmen	Ought to Pass @	\$55,793
Budget Committee	Ought to Pass @	\$55,793

ARTICLE 33



To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$27,000 for the final lease payment on the Fire Department truck from the town's Undesignated Fund Balance account.

Board of Selectmen Ought to Pass @ \$27,000
Budget Committee Ought to Pass @ \$27,000

ARTICLE 34



To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$5,000 for the purchase of SCBA (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus) units from the town's Undesignated Fund Balance account.

Board of Selectmen
Budget Committee

Ought to Pass @ \$0
Ought to Pass @ \$5,000

Budget difference \$5,000. Selectmen felt this could come out of the operational budget.

ARTICLE 35



To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$25,000 for the purchase of roll off containers for the Transfer Station from the town's Undesignated Fund Balance.

Board of Selectmen Ought to Pass @\$0

Budget Committee Ought to Pass @\$25,000

Selectmen felt this could wait until next year and that current equipment could be repaired.

ARTICLE 36



To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the 3rd (third) of 5 (five) excavator payments from excise taxes.

Board of Selectmen
Budget Committee

Ought to Pass \$25,000
Ought to Pass \$25,000

ARTICLE 37



To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$232,000 for the 1st (first) of 10 (ten) road bond payments from excise taxes.

Board of Selectmen

Ought to Pass \$232,000

Budget Committee

Out to Pass \$232,000

ARTICLE 38



To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$44,000 for the 6th (sixth) of 10 (ten) Marsh Road bond payments from excise taxes.

Board of Selectmen	Ought to Pass \$44,000
Budget Committee	Out to Pass \$44,000

Article 39



To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an agreement with Albert R. Bergeron of 34 Turcotte Road, to adjust the boundary line of the Turcotte road to reflect its current location, and to release the portion of land owned by the Town that is no longer being used for the Turcotte Rd, to Albert Bergeron, his successor, heirs, and assigns (the grantee), so as to extend his property line to the limits of the reconstructed Turcotte Road as it currently exists, provided that the portion of land released to the grantee shall not be utilized by the grantee in a manner incompatible with the Town's continued use and maintenance of the Turcotte Road.

Board of Selectmen Ought to Pass

ARTICLE 40



Shall an ordinance entitled ‘Property Maintenance Ordinance’ be enacted?

A copy of the proposed Property Maintenance Ordinance is posted together with this warrant and is hereby incorporated by reference. A copy is also available in the form on file with Sabattus Town Clerk

ARTICLE 41



Shall an ordinance entitled ‘Building Code Ordinance’ be enacted and shall the previous ordinance entitled Minimum Lot Size & Building Code be repealed?

A copy of the proposed Building Code Ordinance is available in the form on file with the Sabattus Town Clerk.

Article 42



To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to sell the former Sabattus Primary property located at 36 No Name Pond Road (Map/Lot 014-019-000) through such methods and on such terms and conditions as it deems to be in the best interest of the Town, and to authorize the Select Board to execute any and all documents necessary to complete this transaction.

Selectmen Ought to Pass

Budget Committee Ought to Pass

Article 43



To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$5,000 for the purpose of maintaining the Sabattus Primary School property from the Undesignated Fund Balance account.

Board of Selectmen Ought to Pass @ \$5,000

Budget Committee Ought to Pass @ \$0

Budget difference \$5,000. Selectmen request money for operations until sold.

Motion to Adjourn



Thank you for voting!



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