

**TOWN OF SABATTUS
MINUTES OF THE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2026**



Town Clerk, Thomas J. Williams, opened the Town Meeting at 6:00 o'clock in the evening and read the following:

To JON MENNEALY, a RESIDENT of the Town of Sabattus.

GREETINGS: In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Sabattus, in said County and State, qualified by law to vote in town affairs to meet in the gymnasium of the Oak Hill Middle School at 40 Ball Park Road in said town, on Thursday, the 4th day of June, 2026 at 6:00 o'clock in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1. To choose a moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

- ⇒ A nomination was made by Richard Lacombe for Cory Golob.
 - ⇒ A motion to cease nominations was made by Nancy Provost, seconded by George Merrill. The Clerk declared the motion carried in the affirmative by an evident majority.
 - ⇒ The Clerk called for a written ballot vote for Moderator. Upon the call for the vote, the Clerk counted the ballots. With a total of three ballots cast, Cory Golob was declared elected as Moderator of the 2026 Annual Town Meeting with a vote of 3 – 0. He was prompted sworn in by the Town Clerk.
 - ⇒ The Moderator gave an overview of procedure for the evening, adopting the Maine Moderators Manual as the procedural guide for the meeting.
 - ⇒ A motion to appoint Coleen Pike-Howard and Veronica Knox as Ballot Clerks was made by Nancy Provost and seconded by Richard Lacombe. After a call for a vote, the Moderator declared the motion carried in the affirmative by an evident majority.
 - ⇒ A motion to allow Raquel Welch, Town Manager; Holly Weymouth, Town Treasurer; Ron Smith, Town Auditor; Thomas Williams, Town Clerk; Jeff Goss, Chief of Police; Jerry Sabins, Transfer Station Manager; Robert Bradley, Public Works Supervisor; Nick Merry, Fire Chief; Ginifir Giddinge, Code Enforcement Officer; and any representative of non-profit agencies requesting town funds be allowed to speak in this Annual Town Meeting was made by George Merrill and seconded by Richard Lacombe. After a call for a vote, the Moderator declared the motion carried in the affirmative by an evident majority.
-

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 M.R.S.A. §505 (1), will vote that the tax lists specified in 36 M.R.S.A. §709 be committed for collection on or before September 3, 2026.

⇒ A motion to act on this Article, as written, was made by Amadeo Laura and seconded by Christine Guerette. After a call for a vote, the Moderator declared the motion carried in the affirmative by an evident majority.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 M.R.S.A. §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 year taxes.

⇒ A motion to act on this Article, as written, was made by Amadeo Laura and seconded by Laura Clifford. After a call for a vote, the Moderator declared the motion carried in the affirmative by an evident majority.

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 M.R.S.A. §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 7.0% per annum shall be charged on all delinquent property taxes.

⇒ A motion to act on this Article, as written, was made by Amadeo Laura and seconded by Laura Clifford. After a call for a vote, the Moderator declared the motion carried in the affirmative by an evident majority.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 M.R.S.A. §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 7.0%.

⇒ A motion to act on this Article, as written, was made by Amadeo Laura and seconded by Laura Clifford. After a call for a vote, the Moderator declared the motion carried in the affirmative by an evident majority.

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, and that interest on any prepayment will be zero (0) percent.

⇒ A motion to act on this Article, as written, was made by Amadeo Laura and seconded by Laura Clifford. After a call for a vote, the Moderator declared the motion carried in the affirmative by an evident majority.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard and the Treasurer to receive and appropriate non-property tax revenues to reduce property tax commitment for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

⇒ A motion to act on this Article, as written, was made by Amadeo Laura and seconded by Laura Clifford. After a call for a vote, the Moderator declared the motion carried in the affirmative by an evident majority.

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.

⇒ A motion to act on this Article, as written, was made by Amadeo Laura and seconded by Laura Clifford. After a call for a vote, the Moderator declared the motion carried in the affirmative by an evident majority.

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.

⇒ A motion to act on this Article, as written, was made by Amadeo Laura and seconded by Laura Clifford. After a call for a vote, the Moderator declared the motion carried in the affirmative by an evident majority.

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.

⇒ A motion to act on this Article, as written, was made by Amadeo Laura and seconded by Laura Clifford. After a call for a vote, the Moderator declared the motion carried in the affirmative by an evident majority.

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.

⇒ A motion to act on this Article, as written, was made by Amadeo Laura and seconded by Laura Clifford.

→ Paul Loesberg asked how much money is currently in the undesignated fund balance. Raquel Welch, Town Manager, responded \$3,278,835

⇒ After a call for a vote, the Moderator declared the motion carried by an evident majority.

The Moderator announced the rest of the Articles will be counted for the record by the elected ballot clerks.

It was also announced that the cost centers look different on this year's warrant as payroll taxes, insurances, retirement costs, and utilities have been moved from singular cost centers to be split out to the department cost cents in which those costs belong. A sheet providing a breakdown of the changes was provided to voters upon check-in and is available on the Town website.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$763,988 to fund ADMINISTRATION.

⇒ A motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$717,186 to fund ADMINISTRATION was made by Amadeo Lauria and seconded by Rocky Wallace.

→ A motion to amend the amount to \$763,988 was made by George Merrill and seconded by Laura Clifford.

◇ Karen Atwood inquired as to why the budget committee number was lower. Stephanie Saltzman (Budget Committee Chair) explained the Committee looked at historical spending against the request and made decisions based on information provided. Raquel Welch further elaborated the budget committee proposal is to cut the cleaning services, which would require Town Office employees complete the cleaning tasks after completing their normal work.

◇ Jean Paul Curran inquired as to what the year-to-year difference would be if everything had stayed in the same cost centers as last year. The Town Clerk responded with the amount of \$15,763 of an increase.

◇ Jessica Edwards asked the Town Clerk to explain the breakdown sheet that was provided, which was done accordingly.

→ With no more discussion, the Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. The Moderator declared the amendment carried with 33 votes in favor, 19 opposed.

⇒ The Moderator then called for a vote on raising and appropriating the sum of **\$763,988** to fund ADMINISTRATION. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 32 votes in favor, 15 opposed.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$112,523 to fund CODE ENFORCEMENT.

⇒ A motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 to fund CODE ENFORCEMENT was made by Amadeo Lauria and seconded by Rocky Wallace.

→ A question was asked about the Code Enforcement Officer's employment status, and it was confirmed that the position is full-time.

→ Amadeo Laura discussed his frustrations with costs moving around within the cost centers as it doesn't allow for a clear picture of the Town's finances.

→ A motion to amend the amount to \$112,522 was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Jon Mennealy.

◇ Laura Clifford shared that the Code Enforcement Officer is constantly working on projects in and around the Town and is an asset to this town.

- With no more discussion, the Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. The Moderator declared the amendment carried with 36 votes in favor, 6 opposed.
 - ⇒ The Moderator then called for a vote on raising and appropriating the sum of **\$112,522** to fund CODE ENFORCEMENT. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 38 votes in favor, 6 opposed.
-

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,088,447 to fund the POLICE DEPARTMENT.

- ⇒ A motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,077,847 to fund the POLICE DEPARTMENT was made by Amadeo Lauria and seconded by Christine Guerette.
 - A motion to amend the amount to \$1,088,446 was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by George Merrill.
 - ◇ Jon Menneally asked if the surrounding towns have been solicited for cost sharing as Sabattus Police Department has responded to calls in those municipalities. It was answered that services are provided as mutual aid in interlocal cooperation.
 - ◇ What are the differences between the Budget Committee and the Selectboard recommendations? Again, historical spending and there was a cut in general equipment.
 - ◇ Is this recommended budget for a full department? Yes, with money to send to the Maine Criminal Justice Academy.
 - ◇ Kevin Brewer asked when the last time the department was rated. While no outside agency has explicitly come to “rate” the department, there are internal mechanisms to rate and review the staff and operations.
 - ◇ A motion to move the question was made by Guy Desjardins and seconded by Roger Brault. The Moderator explained that this would require a 2/3 supermajority vote of electors and called a vote. In a vote of 49 in favor and 0 opposed, discussion ended.
 - The Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. The Moderator declared the amendment carried with 33 votes in favor, 15 opposed.
 - ⇒ The Moderator then called for a vote on raising and appropriating the sum of **\$1,088,446** to fund the POLICE DEPARTMENT. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 36 votes in favor, 12 opposed.
-

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,010 to fund ANIMAL CONTROL.

- ⇒ A motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,010 to fund ANIMAL CONTROL was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Richard Lacombe.

- ⇒ The Moderator then called for a vote on raising and appropriating the sum of **\$31,010** to fund ANIMAL CONTROL. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 52 votes in favor, 0 opposed.
-

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$903,571 to fund the FIRE DEPARTMENT.

- ⇒ A motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$903,571 to fund the FIRE DEPARTMENT was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Richard Lacombe.
- ⇒ The Moderator then called for a vote on raising and appropriating the sum of **\$903,571** to fund the FIRE DEPARTMENT. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 41 votes in favor, 11 opposed.
-

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).

- ⇒ A motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,535 to fund the EMERGENCY FIRST RESPONDER PROGRAM (EMS) was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Roger Martineau.
- ⇒ The Moderator called for a vote on raising and appropriating the sum of **\$18,535** to fund the EMERGENCY FIRST RESPONDER (EMS). The Moderator declared the motion carried with 46 votes in favor, 3 opposed.
-

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,218,656 to fund PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

- ⇒ A motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,218,656 to fund the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Richard Lacombe.
- A motion to amend the amount to \$1,200,993 was made by Alexander VanSant and seconded by Rocky Wallace.
- With no more discussion, the Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. The Moderator declared the amendment carried with 29 votes in favor, 18 opposed.
- ⇒ The Moderator then called for a vote on raising and appropriating the sum of **\$1,200,993** to fund the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 39 votes in favor, 17 opposed.
-

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$393,199 to fund the TRANSFER STATION.

- ⇒ A motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$393,199 to fund the TRANSFER STATION was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Amadeo Lauria.
- A motion to amend the amount to \$388,799 was made by Angela Mitchell and seconded by Alexander VanSant.
- ◇ Amadeo Lauria spoke to the Transfer Station being one of the best services the Town has: clean, organized, and worth having.

- With no more discussion, the Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. The Moderator declared the amendment failed with 16 votes in favor, 27 opposed.
 - ⇒ The Moderator then called for a vote on raising and appropriating the sum of **\$393,199** to fund the TRANSFER STATION. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 41 votes in favor, 5 opposed.
-

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,118 to fund the BOARDS & COMMITTEES.

- ⇒ A motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,118 to fund BOARDS AND COMMITTEES was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Amadeo Lauria.
 - Nick Marchesseault inquired what this cost center funds. Raquel Welch informed the voters that it covers the Selectboard and the Planning Board (wages – including any taxes, Selectboard cellphones, supplies for the Planning Board, and education).
 - Angela Mitchell offered a motion to amend to include the Budget Committee in the wording of the Article as the Municipal Charter references pay for said Committee.
 - ◇ The Town Clerk made a Point of Order – noting that the Article itself cannot be changed. The voters are voting on the total, not to exceed the number printed within the Article, which represents the “bottom-line” of that cost center rather than line items. Regarding the Municipal Charter, the reference made is in Article V which states the Personnel Director is the Town Manager or their designee and it is their responsibility to create a pay plan for the Budget Committee among other positions.
 - ⇒ With no more discussion, the Moderator then called for a vote on raising and appropriating the sum of **\$25,118** to fund BOARDS AND COMMITTEES. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 43 votes in favor, 4 opposed.
-

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$103,655 to fund PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.

- ⇒ A motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$103,655 to fund PROFESSIONAL SERVICES was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by George Merrill.
 - A motion to amend the amount to \$102,355 was made by Alexandria Summers and seconded by Rocky Wallace.
 - ◇ Guy Desjardins asked the status of the use of legal services. Raquel Welch, Town Manager, expressed that we utilize legal services frequently. She also suggested, if the Property Maintenance Ordinance passes later on this warrant, legal services will be used more frequently.

- With no more discussion, the Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. The Moderator declared the amendment failed with 18 votes in favor, 28 opposed.
 - ⇒ The Moderator then called for a vote on raising and appropriating the sum of **\$103,655** to fund PROFESSIONAL SERVICES. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 34 votes in favor, 12 opposed.
-

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,850 to fund STORMWATER MANAGEMENT.

- ⇒ A motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,850 to fund STORMWATER MANAGEMENT was made by Jon Mennealy and seconded by Laura Clifford.
 - A motion to amend the amount to \$28,750 was made by Rocky Wallace and seconded by Angela Mitchell.
 - ◇ Amadeo Lauria inquired about the differences between the recommendations. It was explained there were things within the contract that could be cut back, after conversations with the representative from Stillwater.
 - With no more discussion, the Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. The Moderator declared the amendment carried with 39 votes in favor, 6 opposed.
 - ⇒ The Moderator then called for a vote on raising and appropriating the sum of **\$28,750** to fund STORMWATER MANAGEMENT. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 49 votes in favor, 0 opposed.
-

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$73,000 to fund DISPATCH & E911/PSAP services.

- ⇒ A motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$73,000 to fund the DISPATCH & E911/PSAP was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Richard Lacombe.
 - ⇒ The Moderator called for a vote on raising and appropriating the sum of **\$73,000** to fund the DISPATCH & E911/PSAP. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 51 votes in favor, 1 opposed.
-

ARTICLE 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$21,322 to fund ORGANIZATIONS.

- ⇒ A motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$21,322 to fund ORGANIZATIONS was made by Jon Mennealy and seconded by Roger Martineau.
 - A motion to move the question was made by Guy Desjardins and seconded by Roger Brault. The Moderator called for a vote. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 48 votes in favor and 0 opposed.

- ⇒ The Moderator called for a vote on raising and appropriating the sum of **\$21,322** to fund the ORGANIZATIONS. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 40 votes in favor, 4 opposed.
-

ARTICLE 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$148,408 to fund PUBLIC UTILITIES.

- ⇒ A motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$148,408 to fund PUBLIC UTILITIES was made by Roger Brault and seconded by Laura Clifford.
- Jon Mennealy inquired about the formula used to calculate the amount owed to the Sabattus Sanitary District for the fire protection (fire hydrants). Mark Duquette was asked to speak about the way it is calculated, as directed by the Public Utilities Commission.
- ⇒ The Moderator called for a vote on raising and appropriating the sum of **\$148,408** to fund PUBLIC UTILITIES. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 44 votes in favor, 1 opposed.
-

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,800 to fund NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.

- ⇒ A motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,800 to fund the NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Roger Brault.
- A motion to amend the amount to \$8,800 was made by Alexander VanSant, seconded by Rocky Wallace.
- ◇ There was a question as to what the proposed amendment would cut. The Town Clerk made a Point of Order noting that the vote is to authorize a total amount and not a disbursement amount for each organization.
 - ◇ A motion was made to allow non-resident, Hon. Stephen Wood (State Representative), to speak. The Moderator instructed it would take a supermajority vote and called for a vote. There were 38 votes in favor, 1 opposed.
 - ◇ Hon. Stephen Wood gave insight into some of the organizations listed and the impact they've had on the local community, listing his support.
 - ◇ A motion to move the question was made by Roger Brault and seconded by Alexander VanSant. The Moderator called for a vote. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 48 votes in favor and 0 opposed.
- The Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. The Moderator declared the amendment failed with 13 votes in favor, 37 opposed.

- ⇒ The Moderator called for a vote on raising and appropriating the sum of **\$9,800** to fund the NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 44 votes in favor, 5 opposed.
-

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.

- ⇒ A motion to appropriate the sum of \$2,000 from a special revenue account to fund GENERAL ASSISTANCE was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Richard Lacombe.
- ⇒ The Moderator called for a vote on appropriating the sum of **\$2,000 from a special revenue account** to fund GENERAL ASSISTANCE. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 48 votes in favor, 1 opposed.
-

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.

- ⇒ A motion to appropriate \$10,000 for the creation of a Paid Time Off Liability Reserve Account was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Jon Mennealy.
- For context, it was explained that when an employee leaves employment and vacation and comp time must be paid out, there's currently no account to take that money from, so it has been taken out of the wages line, jeopardizing the fiscal year budget, often putting burden on a department. Creating this account is not to pay an active employee for their PTO or comp time, but only when there's a separation.
- ⇒ The Moderator called for a vote to appropriate the sum of **\$10,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance** for the creation of a Paid Time Off Liability Reserve Account. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 34 votes in favor, 2 opposed
-

ARTICLE 29. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$15,000 from the Town's "Undesignated Fund Balance" to reseal of parking lot at the Town Office.

- ⇒ A motion to appropriate \$15,000 for the resealing of the Town Office parking lot was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Jon Mennealy.
- ⇒ The Moderator called for a vote to appropriate the sum of **\$15,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance** for the resealing of the parking lot at the Town Office. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 44 votes in favor, 4 opposed
-

ARTICLE 30. To see If the Town will vote to appropriate \$185,000 from the Town's "Undesignated Fund Balance" for the future revaluation of the town.

- ⇒ A motion to appropriate \$185,000 for the future revaluation of the Town was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Jon Mennealy.
 - ⇒ The Moderator called for a vote to appropriate the sum of **\$185,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance** for the future revaluation of the Town. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 40 votes in favor, 2 opposed
-

ARTICLE 31. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the 2nd (second) of 6 (six) contractual payments for Axon tasers and cameras from the Undesignated Fund Balance account.

- ⇒ A motion to appropriate \$25,000 for the 2nd of 6 contractual payments for Axon tasers and cameras was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Richard Lacombe.
 - ⇒ The Moderator called for a vote to appropriate the sum of **\$25,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance** for 2nd of 6 contractual payment for Axon tasers and cameras. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 41 votes in favor, 0 opposed
-

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 payment for the 2020 fire engine from the Undesignated Fund Balance account.

- ⇒ A motion to appropriate \$55,793 for the 6th of 10 annual debt service payments for the 2020 fire engine was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Richard Lacombe.
 - Guy Desjardins inquired about previous practice of applying money to capital reserve accounts to large purchases rather than appropriate from the Undesignated Fund Balance. Raquel Welch, Town Manager, explained that this is debt from before rather than new purchases and also discussed the status of the current capital accounts.
 - ⇒ The Moderator called for a vote to appropriate the sum of **\$55,793 from the Undesignated Fund Balance** for the 6th of 10 annual debt service payments for the 2020 fire engine. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 46 votes in favor, 2 opposed
-

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 Undesignated Fund Balance account.

- ⇒ A motion to appropriate \$27,000 for the final lease payment on the Fire Department truck was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Roger Brault.
 - Alexander VanSant inquired whether the Department's plan is to keep the truck upon final payment or to change vehicles. Raquel Welch, Town Manager identified the intention to keep the vehicle.

- Roger Martineau asked why money is being requested from the Undesignated Fund Balance if there is money in the Fire Department Capital account. Raquel Welch, Town Manager, explained the capital account is meant to accrue for much larger purchases such as a new fire engine which will cost greater than one million dollars.
 - ⇒ The Moderator called for a vote to appropriate the sum of **\$27,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance** for the final lease payment for the Fire Department truck. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 39 votes in favor, 7 opposed
-

ARTICLE 34. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for the purchase of SCBA (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus) units from the Undesignated Fund Balance account.

- ⇒ A motion to appropriate \$0 for the purchase of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus units was made by Laura Clifford, seconded by Guy Desjardins.
 - A motion to amend the amount to \$5,000 was made by Rocky Wallace, seconded by Alexander VanSant.
 - ◇ Alexander VanSant spoke about deliberations during the Budget process when the Budget Committee inquired about equipment. While the Department has enough SCBAs for current staff on the truck, any time a person goes to training, any unit needed for training gets taken for that purpose. On top of that, some units are aging. The purpose of this money would be purchasing quality refurbished units that could be used for those needs to ensure the department has what they need at all times.
 - With no more discussion, the Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. The Moderator declared the amendment failed with 7 votes in favor, 41 opposed.
 - ⇒ The Moderator called for a vote to appropriate the sum of **\$0 from the Undesignated Fund Balance** for the purchase of SCBA (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus) units for the Fire Department. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 46 votes in favor, 6 opposed.
-

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 Undesignated Fund Balance account.

- ⇒ A motion to appropriate \$0 for the purchase of roll-off containers was made by Laura Clifford, seconded by David Timberlake.
 - A motion to amend the amount to \$25,000 was made by Rocky Wallace, seconded by Roger Brault.

◇ Jerry Sabin, Transfer Station Manager, spoke about the need for the containers and the status of the current containers along with the growing cost of repairs.

→ With no more discussion, the Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. The Moderator declared the amendment carried with 43 votes in favor, 12 opposed.

⇒ The Moderator called for a vote to appropriate the sum of \$25,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance for the purchase of roll off containers for the Transfer Station. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 46 votes in favor, 12 opposed.

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.

⇒ A motion to act on the Article as written was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Richard Lacombe.

⇒ The Moderator called for a vote to appropriate the sum of **\$25,000 from excise taxes** for the 3rd of 5 excavator payments. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 42 votes in favor, 3 opposed.

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.

⇒ A motion to act on the Article as written was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Richard Lacombe.

⇒ The Moderator called for a vote to appropriate the sum of **\$232,000 from excise taxes** for the 1st of 10 road bond payments. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 48 votes in favor, 2 opposed.

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.

⇒ A motion to act on the Article as written was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Roger Brault.

⇒ The Moderator called for a vote to appropriate the sum of **\$44,000 from excise taxes** for the 6th of 10 Marsh Road bond payment. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 44 votes in favor, 1 opposed.

ARTICLE 39. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard 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, at to release the portion of land owned by the Town that is no longer being used for the Turcotte Road to Albert R. 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 in a manner incompatible with the Town's continues use and maintenances of the Turcotte Road.

⇒ A motion to act on the Article as written was made by Jon Mennealy and seconded by Richard Lacombe.

⇒ The Moderator called for a vote to act on the Article as written. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 43 votes in favor, 1 opposed.

ARTICLE 40. Shall an ordinance entitled 'Property Maintenance Ordinance' be enacted?

⇒ A motion to enact the ordinance entitled 'Property Maintenance Ordinance' was made by Jon Mennealy and seconded by Nancy Provost.

→ David Timberlake questioned the limit to vehicles and whether this limit applied to unregistered or disabled vehicles. Other comments related to this were omitted from the minutes. During the course of discussion, the proposed ordinance refers to the Automobile Graveyard Ordinance in which it defines things further.

→ Amadeo Lauria expressed his feel as though this ordinance is overreach by the municipality.

→ Ginifir Giddinge, Code Enforcement Officer, explained this proposed ordinance has gone through the attorney's office, has been used by other municipalities, and the primary purpose is for the frequent calls received regarding properties in town that have an abundance of trash that have attracted rodents.

→ Alexandria Summers inquired whether people called about the trash because of safety or because they do not like looking at it.

→ A motion to move the question was made and seconded. The Moderator called for a vote. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 49 votes in favor and 0 opposed.

⇒ The Moderator called for a vote to enact an ordinance entitled 'Property Maintenance Ordinance.' The Moderator declared the motion carried with 31 votes in favor, 17 opposed.

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 motion to enact the ordinance entitled 'Building Code Ordinance' was made by Jon Mennealy and seconded by Laura Clifford.
- ⇒ The Moderator called for a vote to enact an ordinance entitled 'Building Code Ordinance.' The Moderator declared the motion carried with 31 votes in favor, 14 opposed.

ARTICLE 42. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to sell the former Sabattus Primary School 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 Selectboard to execute any and all documents necessary to complete this transaction.

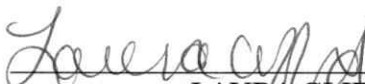
- ⇒ A motion to act on this Article, as written, was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Richard Lacombe.
 - A motion to move the question was made by Roger Brault and seconded by Laura Clifford. The Moderator explained that this would require a 2/3 supermajority vote of electors and called a vote. In a vote of 46 in favor and 0 opposed, discussion ended.
 - The Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. The Moderator declared the amendment carried with 33 votes in favor, 15 opposed.
- ⇒ The Moderator called for a vote on authorizing the Selectboard to sell the former Sabattus Primary School 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 Selectboard to execute any and all documents necessary to complete this transaction. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 34 votes in favor, 14 opposed.

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.

- ⇒ A motion to appropriate the sum of \$5,000 from the Undesignated Fund Balance to maintain the Sabattus Primary School was made by Laura Clifford and seconded by Noel Hinkley.
 - A motion to amend the amount to \$0 was made by Angela Mitchell and seconded by Alexander VanSant.
 - ◇ Several commenters made note of the fact that there will be costs associated with the building, especially if the building is still in the possession of the Town when the weather starts to change again and those costs will easily exceed the originally suggested amounts.

- With no more discussion, the Moderator called for a vote on the amendment. The Moderator declared the amendment failed with 9 votes in favor, 30 opposed.
- ⇒ The Moderator called for a vote appropriating the sum of **\$5,000** from the Undesignated Fund Balance to maintain the Sabattus Primary School. The Moderator declared the motion carried with 35 votes in favor, 6 opposed.
-

Having concluded with the Articles contained in the Warrant, a motion to adjourn the 2026 Annual Town Meeting was made by George Merrill, seconded by Laura Clifford. The Moderator called for a voted and declared the motion carried in the affirmative by majority at 10:40 P.M.



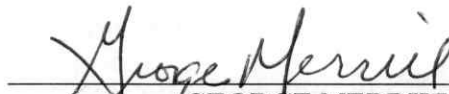
LAURA CLIFFORD



NOEL HINKLEY



RICHARD LACOMBE



GEORGE MERRILL



NANCY PROVOST

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENT



THOMAS J. WILLIAMS
SABATTUS TOWN CLERK

REGISTERED VOTERS IN ATTENDANCE:

KAREN ATWOOD
REGINALD BOUDREA
ROBERT BOULETTE
ROGER BRAULT
TIFFANY BRAULT
KEVIN BREWER
LINDA BREWER
LAURA CLIFFORD
CLAUDETTE CURRAN
DANIEL CURRAN
JEAN PAUL CURRAN
THERESA DESCHAINED
GUY DESJARDINS
AMY DUQUETTE
MARK DUQUETTE
SHANE DUQUETTE
AARON EDWARDS
JENNIFER EDWARDS
SCOTT GIRARDIN
SHANNI GIRARDIN
CORY GOLOB
REBECCA GOLOB

CHRISTINE GUERETTE
DANIEL A. GUERETTE
SHEILA GURNEY
PATRICK GUSTAFSON
EUGENE HAMM
LUKE HAYWARD
NOEL HINKLEY
JAMES JOHNSTON
MARIANNE JOHNSTON
ASHLEY LACHANCE
MATTHEW LACHANCE
RICHARD LACOMBE
TAMI LACOMBE
DONALD LANDRY
AMADEO LAURIA
PAUL LOESBERG
BRUCE LOVETT
BETTY MARCHESSEAU
NICK MARCHESSEAU
DORIS MARTINEAU
ROGER MARTINEAU
JON MENNEALY

GEORGE MERRILL
ANGELA MITCHELL
JOHN MITCHELL
MEGAN PEACOCK
BRIANNA PEPIN
NANCY PROVOST
JAMES RANCOURT
NANCY REYNOLDS
STEPHANIE SALTZMAN
JAMES SHEDD
REBECCA SHEDD
THERESA SHERMAN
LAURA SLYK
KATHY SNAPE
ALEXANDRIA SUMMERS
DAVID TIMBERLAKE
DENNIS TURCOTTE
MAUREEN TURCOTTE
ALEXANDER VANSANT
ROCKY WALLACE

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

ROBERT BRADLEY, PUBLIC WORKS
GINIFIR GIDDINGE, CODE ENFORCEMENT
GARRETT GILE
JEFF GOSS, CHIEF OF POLICE
VERONICA KNOX, DEP. TAX COLLECTOR
NICK MERRY, FIRE CHIEF
COLEEN PIKE-HOWARD, DEPUTY CLERK
JERRY SABINS, TRANSFER STATION
ANTHONY SIDERIO, SR.

BRANDON SIDERIO
MICHELLE SIDERIO
RON SMITH, TOWN AUDITOR
COHEN STORER-DONNELL
RAQUEL WELCH, TOWN MANAGER
HOLLY WEYMOUTH, TOWN TREASURER
THOMAS WILLIAMS, TOWN CLERK
HON. STEPHEN WOOD, STATE REP.