

*original*

**WARRANT  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
HARPSWELL, MAINE  
MARCH 14, 2015**

Cumberland, s.s.

State of Maine

**To any Constable or Resident of the Town of Harpswell:**

You are hereby required in the name of the State of Maine to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Harpswell qualified to vote in Town affairs to assemble at Harpswell Community School, Route 24, Harpswell, Maine on Saturday the fourteenth day of March, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. of said day, to act on Articles 1 through 2. The business meeting to act on Article 3 and others that follow will begin at 10:00 a.m.

**Art. 1 — To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.**  
(POLLS WILL OPEN AS SOON AS ARTICLE ONE HAS BEEN ACTED UPON AND WILL CLOSE AT 5:00 P.M.)

**Art. 2 — To choose by secret ballot one Selectman, who shall be an Assessor and Overseer of the Poor, for a three-year term; one M.S.A.D. # 75 Director, for a three-year term; and one Road Commissioner, for a three-year term.**

**Art. 3 — Shall an Ordinance entitled “2015 De Minimus Amendments to the Basic Land Use Ordinance” be enacted?**

[The proposed ordinance is available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office, online at *harpswell.maine.gov* and will also be available at Town Meeting.]

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 4 — Shall an Ordinance entitled “2015 De Minimus Amendments to the Subdivision Ordinance” be enacted?**

[The proposed ordinance is attached, available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office, online at *harpswell.maine.gov* and will also be available at Town Meeting.]

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 5 — Shall an Ordinance entitled “2015 Amendments to the Definitions Addendum, Shoreland Zoning and Basic Land Use Ordinances regarding Timber Harvesting” be enacted?**

[The proposed ordinance is available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office, online at *harpswell.maine.gov* and will also be available at Town Meeting.]

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 6 — Shall an Ordinance entitled “2015 Amendments to the Basic Land Use Ordinance regarding Impermeable Surface” be enacted?**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

(additions are underlined and deletions are ~~struck-out~~):

Basic Land Use Ordinance

...  
SECTION 11. STANDARDS

11.1. Minimum Lot Standards

...

11.1.1. The total area covered by all structures, driveways, parking lots, and other impermeable surfaces shall not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the total area of the lot with the following exceptions:

11.1.1.1 ~~for~~ Lots in Flexible Lot Size subdivisions that have a lot area of less than 40,000 square feet. ~~Lots with less than 40,000 square feet of area may have up to 7,500 square feet of impermeable surface.~~

...

Art. 7 — Shall an Ordinance entitled “2015 Amendments to the Definitions Addendum and Basic Land Use Ordinance regarding Impermeable Surface and Green Infrastructure/Low Impact Development” be enacted?

*Recommended by Selectmen*

(additions are underlined and deletions are ~~struck-out~~):

Basic Land Use Ordinance

...

SECTION 11. STANDARDS

11.1. Minimum Lot Standards

...

11.1.1.2 Lots with a principal residential use utilizing green infrastructure and low impact development (LID) techniques may have up to twenty-five (25%) percent impermeable surface.

11.1.1.3 Lots with a principal non-residential use utilizing green infrastructure and low impact development (LID) techniques may have up to fifty (50%) impermeable surface.

...

11.6. Storm Water Runoff

11.6.1. All new construction and development shall be designed to minimize storm water runoff from the site in excess of the natural pre-development conditions. Where possible, green infrastructure and low impact development (LID) techniques (rain gardens, infiltration planters, bioswales), as well as existing natural runoff control features, such as (berms, swales, terraces, and wooded areas) shall be retained in order to reduce runoff and encourage infiltration of stormwater.

11.6.2. Storm water runoff control systems shall be maintained as necessary to ensure proper functioning.

Definitions Addendum

Green Infrastructure - an approach to water management that protects, restores, or mimics the natural water cycle. Examples are rain gardens, permeable pavements, green roofs, infiltration planters, trees and tree boxes, rainwater harvesting systems (rain barrels), bioswales as well as preservation and restoration of natural landscapes (such as forests, floodplains and wetlands).

Low Impact Development (LID) - an approach to land development (or re-development) that works with nature to manage stormwater as close to its source as possible. LID employs principles such as preserving and recreating natural landscape features, minimizing impermeable surfaces to treat stormwater as a resource rather than a waste product, and include bioretention facilities, rain gardens, vegetated rooftops, rain barrels, and permeable pavements.

Residential – a land use that is predominated by a dwelling or dwelling units.

...

Art. 8 — Shall an Ordinance entitled “2015 Amendments to the Definitions Addendum regarding Structure” be enacted?

*Recommended by Selectmen*

(additions are underlined and deletions are ~~struck-out~~):

**Definitions Addendum**

...

**Structure** – anything built for the support, shelter or enclosure of persons, animals, goods or property of any kind, together with anything constructed or erected with a fixed location on or in the ground, exclusive of tree houses with no roof, not to exceed twenty five ( 25) square feet; picnic tables; lawn chairs; flag poles; temporary party tents not to exceed three (3) days; ninety six (96) square feet camping tents that are accessory to a legally existing house and that are erected on the property not more than 10 days per calendar year; dog houses not to exceed ten (10) square feet; swimming pools not to exceed ten (10) square feet; fences and poles; wiring; and other equipment normally associated with service drops as well as guying and guy anchors. The term includes, but is not limited to, structures temporarily or permanently located, such as decks, satellite dishes, and portable prefab structures. ~~Other examples of structures include terraces, patios and other construction involving impermeable and/or non-vegetated surfaces.~~

...

**Art. 9 – Shall an Ordinance entitled “2015 Amendments to the Subdivision Ordinance regarding Recording Date, Spaghetti Lots, and Liquid Harvesting” be enacted?**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

(additions are underlined and deletions are ~~struck out~~):

**Subdivision Ordinance**

**SECTION 8. SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS AND REVIEW SCHEDULE**

...

**8.10. Recording of the Approved Subdivision Plan**

The applicant shall, within ~~forty-five (45)~~ ninety (90) days of Planning Board approval, submit the signed subdivision plan to the Cumberland County Registry of Deeds and report the book and page numbers to the CEO within ~~sixty (60)~~ one hundred and twenty (120) days so the references can be recorded on the Town's copies of the plan. The plan shall either contain all the conditions of approval or the applicant shall record a separate document that contains all the conditions of approval under the same terms and provisions as those applying the plan. If the applicant fails to record the signed plan and report the book and page number to the CEO within the required time frame, approval shall be null and void and the CEO shall note that fact on all Town records.

**SECTION 9. APPROVAL STANDARDS**

When reviewing any subdivision plan, the Planning Board shall determine that the proposed subdivision in conjunction with any other existing or approved development meets the review criteria in 30-A M.R.S.A § 4404 and this Section, as may be amended from time to time.

...

9.19 Spaghetti Lots are prohibited. If any lots in the proposed subdivision have shore frontage on a river, stream, brook, great pond, or coastal wetland, as these features are defined in Title 38, section 480-B, none of the lots created within the subdivision shall have a lot depth to shore frontage ratio greater than 5 to 1.

9.20 Liquidation harvesting. Timber on the parcel being subdivided has not been harvested in violation of rules adopted pursuant to Title 12, section 8869 subsection 14.

...

**Definitions Addendum**

Liquidation harvesting – the purchase of timberland followed by a harvest that removes most or all commercial value in standing timber, without regard for long-term forest management principles, and the subsequent sale or attempted resale of the harvested land within five (5) years.

...

**Art. 10 – Shall an Ordinance entitled “2015 Amendments to the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance regarding Parking” be enacted?**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

(additions are underlined and deletions are ~~struck out~~):

*original*

15.7. Parking Areas. This section applies when an area is developed for parking of seven or more vehicles one thousand (1,000) square feet or more of parking.

15.7.1. Parking areas shall meet the Shoreland setback requirements for structures for the district in which such areas are located, except that:

15.7.1.1. The setback requirement for parking areas in the Commercial Fisheries I District may be reduced to no less than twenty-five (25) feet, horizontal distance, from the maximum high water line of a great pond, stream, tributary stream, HAT of the coastal wetland or the upland edge of a freshwater wetland described in Section 3 of this ordinance if the Code Enforcement Officer determines that no reasonable alternative exists, and

15.7.1.2. The setback requirements for parking areas serving public boat launching facilities, in districts other than the Commercial Fisheries I District may be reduced to no less than fifty (50) feet, horizontal distance, from the maximum high water line of a great pond, stream, tributary stream, HAT of the coastal or upland edge of a wetland described in Section 3 of this ordinance if the Code Enforcement Officer finds that no other reasonable alternative exists.

**Art. 11 – Shall an Ordinance entitled “2015 Amendments to the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance regarding Commercial Fishing” be enacted?**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

(additions are underlined and deletions are ~~struck-out~~):

**SECTION 13. ESTABLISHMENT OF DISTRICTS**

13.5. **Commercial Fishing II District.** The Commercial Fishing II District shall be defined as the remaining one hundred seventy-five (175) foot zone behind CF I, to two hundred fifty (250) ft. inland from the HAT of the coastal wetland.

In the CF II District, ~~residential use that is accessory to the principal functionally water-dependent use may be allowed subject to the residential standards as defined in Section 15.1 and Table 1 in Section 14 of this Ordinance~~ shall apply. Both parts of CF I and CF II of any lot in the CF District existing prior to January 1, 1989, shall be included in calculating lot size.

**SECTION 14. TABLE OF LAND USES IN THE SHORELAND ZONE**

TABLE 1 LAND USES IN THE SHORELAND ZONE						
Land Uses	Shoreland Districts					
	RP	SR	SB	CF I	CF II	MFMB <sup>16</sup>
15.3. *Commercial	no <sup>13</sup>	no <sup>13</sup>	PB	PB <sup>4</sup>	PB <sup>2</sup>	PB <sup>16</sup>
15.3.1 Commercial Fishing	no <sup>13</sup>	<u>CEO</u>	<u>CEO</u>	<u>CEO</u>	<u>CEO</u>	<u>CEO</u>

**Section 15. Land Use Standards**

**15.15 Clearing or Removal of Vegetation for Activities other than Timber Harvesting**

15.15.6 The clearing or removal of vegetation in the Commercial Fishing I and II Districts within the buffer strip may be allowed, provided that the clearing or removal of vegetation is necessary for a principal commercial fishing use located on the parcel and the primary income for the landowner or lessee is derived from the same principal commercial fishing use.”

**Art. 12 — Shall an Ordinance entitled “2015 Amendments to the Sign Ordinance regarding Enforcement” be enacted?**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

(additions are underlined and deletions are ~~struck out~~):

...

**6.0 Enforcement**

6.1 It shall be the duty of the Codes Enforcement Officer to administer and enforce the provisions of this ordinance.

6.2 Any person, including but not limited to a landowner, a landowner's agent, or contractor who orders or conducts any activity in violation of this ordinance shall be penalized in accordance with 30-A, M.R.S.A. § 4452, as may be amended from time to time.

6.2.1 For purposes of this Section, each day that a violation continues shall be considered a separate offense.

6.2.2 If the Codes Enforcement Officer finds that provisions of the Town's sign ordinance are being violated, he or she shall notify personally and in writing, if necessary by certified mail return receipt requested, the person responsible for such violation indicating the nature of the violation, and ordering the action necessary to correct it. He or she shall order the discontinuance of illegal use of land, structures, or work being done, removal of illegal structures, or of additions, alterations, or structural changes thereto; discontinuance of any illegal work being done or nuisance conditions; or shall take any other action authorized by this Article to ensure compliance with or to prevent violation of the provisions of the Town's land use ordinances. A copy of such notice shall be submitted to the Board of Selectmen and shall be maintained as a permanent record.

6.2.3 When notification and penalties for actions in violation of the Town's sign ordinance do not result in the correction or abatement of the violation or nuisance condition, the Codes Enforcement Officer shall advise the Board of Selectmen, who may institute any and all actions and proceedings either legal or equitable, to correct the violation, including seeking injunctions of violations, that may be appropriate or necessary for the enforcement of the provisions of the Town's land use ordinances in the name of the Town. The Board of Selectmen is authorized to enter into administrative consent agreements for the purpose of eliminating violations of the Town's sign ordinance and recovering fines without Court action. Such agreements shall not allow an illegal sign to continue unless there is clear and convincing evidence that the illegal sign was erected as a direct result of erroneous advice given by an authorized Town official and there is no evidence that the owner acted in bad faith, or unless the removal of the sign will result in a threat or hazard to public health and safety or will result in substantial environmental damage.

6.2.4 In addition to penalties provided herein, the Town may bring an action in the Superior Court or District Court to enjoin violators of the Town's land use ordinances, for collection of penalties, and for such other relief as may be provided by law.

...

**Art. 13 — Shall an Ordinance entitled “2015 Amendments to Harpswell Shellfish Ordinance” be enacted?**

[The proposed ordinance is attached, available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk's Office, online at *harpswell.maine.gov* and will also be available at Town Meeting.]

*Recommended by Selectmen*

original

**Art. 14 — Shall an Ordinance entitled “2015 Amendments to the Harbor and Waterfront Ordinance” be enacted?**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

(additions are underlined and deletions are ~~struck-out~~):

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4.2 Abandoned Vessel

Any vessel which is ~~unattended and~~ determined by the Harbormaster to constitute a hazard to navigation, or which is sinking or already sunk, or which is stranded on any property without the permission of the owner of the property.

...

5.1.1 Registration

All moorings located below the low water line in waters of Harpswell shall be registered with the Town Clerk ~~before May 1 of each year~~. For renewal moorings re-registered after May 1, the mooring fee will be doubled.

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5.1.5 Unregistered Moorings

If any mooring that has not been previously registered is placed in Harpswell waters, the Harbormaster may have the mooring removed immediately at the expense of the person or persons responsible. If any renewal moorings in the waters of Harpswell are unregistered after May 1, the Town Clerk shall notify the owner. If registration is not completed within thirty (30) days of the date of notice, the Harbormaster may have the mooring removed at the expense of the mooring owner.

5.1.6 Permit Stickers

Upon successful registration, the Town Clerk shall issue a permit sticker showing the year and permit number that is to be attached to the mooring buoy or kept on the boat registered to the mooring. In addition, the permit number must be painted or burned onto the mooring buoy in a legible manner with numbers at least 3 inches tall. Mooring buoys without the mooring permit number properly displayed shall be considered abandoned.

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5.3 Removal of Abandoned Moorings

When the Harbormaster has determined that a mooring is abandoned, he shall so tag the mooring buoy. He shall record the date of the determination, location of the mooring and, if possible, the name of the owner in his records. He shall notify the owner of the abandonment and order the owner to remove the mooring within fifteen (15) ~~thirty (30)~~ days of the date of the notice. If the mooring is not removed, the mooring buoy appropriately marked or re-registered within the applicable fifteen (15) ~~thirty (30)~~-day period, it may be removed or dropped by the Harbormaster at the expense of the owner in accordance with the provisions of Title 38 M.R.S.A., § 4, as may be amended from time to time. Nothing in this Section shall impede enforcement (Section 8.1.7) or collection of penalties (Section 8.2).

5.4 Removal of Abandoned Vessels

Except where the vessel constitutes an immediate hazard to public health, or safety or ~~and~~ welfare, the Board of Selectmen shall notify the owner of an abandoned vessel of his duty to remove the ~~any~~ abandoned vessel within fifteen (15) ~~thirty (30)~~ days of the date of the notice. If the vessel is not removed within the applicable fifteen (15) ~~thirty (30)~~-day period, it may be removed by the Harbor-master at the expense of the owner in accordance with the procedures of Title 38 M.R.S.A. § 5, as may be amended from time to time. Where the Board of Selectmen determines that the abandoned vessel constitutes a threat to public health, or safety or ~~and~~ welfare, it may authorize the Harbor Master to remove the vessel immediately and without notice at the expense of the owner. Nothing in this Section shall prevent the Town from enforcing Section 8.1.5 or from collecting penalties (Section 8.2).

Section 6 HARBOR AND WATERFRONT COMMITTEE

6.1 Committee Make-up

The Harbor and Waterfront Committee shall be comprised of a certain number of seven ~~seven~~ members, as determined and appointed by the Board of Selectmen.

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**Art. 15 — Shall an Ordinance entitled “2015 Amendments to the Property Tax Assistance Ordinance” be enacted?**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

(additions are underlined and deletions are ~~struck-out~~):

**Section 1. Purpose**

The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish a program pursuant to Chapter 907-A of Title 36 of the Maine Revised Statutes to provide property tax assistance to qualifying persons who reside in the Town of Harpswell. Under this program, the Town of Harpswell will provide supplemental cash refund payments to those individuals who qualify as Harpswell resident beneficiaries of the State of Maine Residents ~~Property Tax Program (State Circuit Breaker Program)~~ Property Tax Fairness Credit pursuant to ~~Chapter 907 of Chapter 822 of~~ Title 36 of the Maine Revised Statutes, as may be amended from time to time, and meet the criteria established by this Ordinance.

**Section 2. Definitions**

**Homestead:** A homestead is a dwelling owned or rented by the person seeking tax assistance under this Ordinance or held in a revocable living trust for the benefit of that person. The dwelling must be occupied by that person ~~and that person’s dependents as a home.~~

**Property Tax Assistance Program:** The program established by the Town of Harpswell under this Ordinance. Also referred to as the “Program.”

**Property Tax Fairness Credit Program:** The property tax credit established by the State of Maine pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. §§ 5219-II, 5219-KK, as may be amended from time to time.

**Qualifying applicant:** A qualifying applicant is a person who is determined, after review of a complete application under Section 4 of this Ordinance, to be eligible for a refund payment under the terms of this Ordinance.

**Town Administrator:** The Town Administrator or his/her designee.

**Section 3. Criteria for Participation**

In order to participate in the Property Tax Assistance Program, an applicant must demonstrate all of the following:

- a. That the applicant has a homestead in the Town of Harpswell at the time of application and for the entire year prior to the date of application.
- b. That the applicant has ~~been awarded a refund~~ received a tax credit under the provisions of the State of Maine Residents Property Tax Fairness Credit Program, Chapter 907 of Title 36 of the Maine Revised Statutes for the applicable year.
- c. That the applicant has paid property taxes in full for the year for which the refund is requested.

**Section 4. Application and Payment Procedures**

Persons seeking to participate in the Property Tax Assistance Program shall submit a written request to the Town Administrator no later than October 15 of each year. Applications are required every year to participate in the Program. The Town Administrator shall provide an application form for the Program, which shall include, at a minimum, the applicant’s name, homestead address and contact information. As part of the application to the Town, the applicant shall authorize the Town to seek documentation from Maine Revenue Services of Attached to all applications shall be proof and dollar amount of State Property Tax Fairness Credit received by applicant. (copy of check) of his/her State Refund under Chapter 907 of Title 36 of the Maine Revised Statutes (State Circuit Breaker Program). The Program is based on the State Property Tax Fairness Credit and relates to property taxes assessed and paid or rent paid in the preceding calendar year. Based on the timing of refunds under the State Circuit Breaker Program, an application under this Program will typically relate to taxes assessed two years prior (e.g., a Program application filed in 2011 will relate to municipal property taxes assessed on April 1, 2009 (Fiscal Year 2009)). The Town Administrator shall review and determine if the application is complete and accurate and if the applicant is otherwise eligible to participate in the Program. The Town Administrator shall notify an applicant if an application is determined to be incomplete or inaccurate. The Town Administrator’s decision on eligibility to participate in the Program shall be final.

**Section 5. Determination of eligibility and amount of eligibility**

If the Town Administrator determines that the applicant is eligible to participate in the Program, he/she shall determine the total amount of such eligibility. Eligibility shall be the lesser of the following amounts but in no case shall the Town's refund exceed the property taxes assessed and paid less the State Property Tax Fairness Credit:

- a. ~~50% of The amount of credit qualified for under the Property Tax Fairness Credit Program; refund awarded by the State under Chapter 907, Title 36 M.R.S.A. (Maine Circuit Breaker Program) or;~~
- b. A pro rata share of available monies in the Program Fund based on the amount of one's State Property Tax Fairness Credit Refund under Chapter 907 of Title 36 of the Maine Revised Statutes (State Circuit Breaker Program); or
- c. \$800.00.

The Town Administrator shall report to the Board of Selectmen each year the projected payments and number of eligible applicants requesting assistance from the Program fund.

**Section 6. Program Fund – Limitations upon payments**

Payments under this Ordinance shall be conditioned upon the existence of sufficient monies in the Program Fund for the fiscal year in which participation is sought. If there are not sufficient monies in the Program Fund to pay all qualifying applicants in full under this Ordinance, payments shall be limited to the amounts available in the Program Fund on a pro rata basis to each eligible participant based on the amount of one's State credit under the Property Tax Fairness Credit Program ~~in the Program based on the amount of one's State Refund under Chapter 907 of Title 36 of the Maine Revised Statutes (State Circuit Breaker Program).~~ In the event that a lack of funding results in no payment or less than the full payment to a qualifying applicant, the request will not carry over to the next year.

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**Art. 16 – To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the Property Tax Assistance Program with unexpended funds to be held in reserve. (no appropriation in 2014; \$15,702 currently in reserve)**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 17 – To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate the terms of and accept delivery of an easement deed for a dry hydrant fire protection system from Donn E. Gagnon, on property located off Mountain Road, a portion of Tax Map 5, Lot 17.**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 18 – To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to negotiate the terms of and accept delivery of construction and maintenance easements for stabilization of Long Point Road from landowners adjacent to Long Point Road as the Board deems to be in the best interests of the Town.**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 19 – To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on such terms and conditions as the Board deems to be in the best interests of the Town, to convey to the owners of property located at 923 Harpswell Neck Road an appurtenant access easement over an existing driveway that has served their property for over twenty years but that crosses a portion of the Town Common near the Elijah Kellogg Church.**

*Recommended by Selectmen*



Art. 20 — To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the elected officials salaries and travel reimbursement as follows, for which Tax Collector and Town Clerk are full-time positions, and when the Selectmen fill a vacancy in any elected position, they are authorized to establish the annual payment, at their discretion:

	2015	2014	2014 Expended
Selectman, Chair	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
Selectman	6,000	6,000	6,000
Selectman	6,000	6,000	6,000
Tax Collector	42,024	40,800	40,800
Town Clerk*	45,946	44,500	44,500
Road Commissioner	20,000	15,300	15,300
Travel Reimbursement	<u>3,100</u>	<u>3,100</u>	<u>2,616</u>
	\$129,070	\$121,700	\$121,216

\*Town Clerk is also Registrar of Voters and receives \$2,419 which is budgeted in Article 21.

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 21 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$378,952 for General Administration.

	2015	2014	2014 Expended
Administration Salary & Wages	\$181,812	\$175,503	\$173,471
Computers & Computer Services Agreements	32,400	32,400	29,846
Audit	12,000	14,000	15,800
Other	35,900	37,801	29,303
Public Information	9,000	9,000	8,115
Legal	50,000	40,000	43,152
Risk Management/Insurance	<u>57,840</u>	<u>56,722</u>	<u>52,380</u>
	\$378,952	\$365,426	\$352,067

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 22 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$16,422 for memberships as follows:

	2015	2014	2014 Expended
Maine Municipal Association	\$8,787	\$8,402	\$8,402
Midcoast Council of Governments	7,110	7,110	7,110
Southern Midcoast Chamber of Commerce	500	500	500
Harpswell Business Association	<u>25</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>25</u>
	\$16,422	\$16,037	\$16,037

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 23 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$76,360 for the Assessing Office. (\$74,723 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$68,515 expended)

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 24 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,415 for the Tax Collector's Office. (\$29,550 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$27,956 expended)

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

- Art. 25 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$53,034 for the Town Clerk's Office.** (\$55,456 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$43,503 expended)  
*Recommended by Selectmen*  
*Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*
- Art. 26 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$28,269 for the Treasurer's Office.** (\$23,250 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$22,368 expended)  
*Recommended by Selectmen*  
*Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*
- Art. 27 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$118,172 for the Code Enforcement Office.** (\$116,283 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$112,535 expended)  
*Recommended by Selectmen*  
*Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*
- Art. 28 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$78,318 for the Planning Office and for planning services.** (\$74,956 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$72,302 expended)  
*Recommended by Selectmen*  
*Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*
- Art. 29 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$323,690 for Operations and Personnel at the Recycling Center & Transfer Station.** (\$327,368 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$329,495 expended)  
*Recommended by Selectmen*  
*Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*
- Art. 30 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,707 for Animal Control to include \$6,287 for the Coastal Humane Society.** (\$25,707 raised and appropriated in 2014 including \$6,287 for the Coastal Humane Society; \$22,605 expended)  
*Recommended by Selectmen*  
*Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*
- Art. 31 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$110,000 to a reserve fund for the purpose of defense and acquisition of interests in real property held or to be held by the Town or the public in the area of Cedar Beach, Cedar Island, and Small Beach on Merry's Cove, including public access thereto; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to expend funds from the reserve fund for the reimbursement of reasonable legal expenses and other costs incurred by Cedar Beach/Cedar Island Supporters, Inc. ("CBCIS") on or after September 15, 2014 in connection with the defense, acquisition or confirmation of such interests, and for the Town to acquire such interests on terms and conditions that the Board of Selectmen deems to be in the best interests of the Town; provided that any uncommitted balance of the reserve fund as of December 31, 2017 shall be transferred to the Town's unassigned fund balance.**  
*Recommended by Selectmen*  
*Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*
- Art. 32 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey the West Harpswell School property to Harpswell Coastal Academy (HCA), a public charter school, for total consideration amounting to not less than \$150,000, giving credit for \$40,000 in lease payments made or to be made by HCA to the Town during the 2014-2015 school year, and in accordance with the terms and conditions of a certain purchase and sale agreement by and between the Town and HCA dated February 19, 2015, a copy of which is on file at the office of the Town Clerk.**  
*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 33 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$43,788 for Harbor Management.** (\$42,249 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$39,745 expended)

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 34 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$28,899 for the Recreation Department.** (\$28,336 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$24,336 expended)

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 35 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,000 for Recreation Programs and the sum of \$3,500 for maintenance of Trufant-Summerton Field, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to appropriate revenue generated by recreation programs for recreational purposes and revenue generated by advertising for operating expenses and capital improvement of Trufant-Summerton Field.** (\$14,850 raised and appropriated in 2014)

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 36 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,000 for a public transportation service between Harpswell and Brunswick.**

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 37 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$350,257 for Employee Benefits.**

	2015	2014	2014 Expended
Health Insurance	\$233,094	\$211,911	\$210,880
Social Sec/Medicare	63,944	61,662	60,709
Retirement	50,219	47,146	43,719
Disability	<u>3,000</u>	<u>3,600</u>	<u>2,608</u>
	\$350,257	\$324,319	\$317,916

*Note: Elected Officials may participate in the health plan pursuant to terms of the Town's personnel policy.*

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 38 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,110 for Boards and Committees.** (\$4,685 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$3,551 expended)

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 39 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$103,150 for the maintenance and operations of Town facilities, vehicles and properties including an easement.**

	2015	2014	2014 Expended
Buildings, property & vehicles	\$73,850	\$69,950	\$70,283
EMS Building	6,300	8,000	5,282
Old Town House & Commons	5,500	6,000	5,141
Town Dock	3,000	4,850	2,914
Town Landings	12,000	24,500	9,476
Cedar Beach Monitor & Signage	<u>2,500</u>	<u>5,200</u>	<u>1,862</u>
	\$103,150	\$118,500	\$94,958

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 40 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,000 for the maintenance and repair of cemeteries and graves in accordance with State law. (\$7,000 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$6,285 expended in 2014)**

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 41 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 for the maintenance and operation of the former West Harpswell School. (\$10,000 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$3,278 expended)**

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 42 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,300 for Mitchell Field.**

	<b>2015</b>	2014	2014 Expended
Building Demolition	\$ 0	\$25,000	\$14,242
Water Tower Condition Report	0	2,500	2,500
Mowing/Repairs/Signage	9,100	11,400	7,106
Electricity	1,000	1,000	925
Portable Toilets	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,410</u>
	<b>\$11,300</b>	<b>\$41,100</b>	<b>\$26,183</b>

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 43 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to use \$10,758 in carry over building demolition funds to establish a Mitchell Field reserve account for emergency repairs or other capital needs.**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 44 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$502,918 for snow removal, road maintenance and road/street signs.**

	<b>2015</b>	2014	2014 Expended
Snow Removal	\$430,418	\$410,466	\$399,726
Road Maintenance	70,000	60,000	63,886
Road/Street Signs	<u>2,500</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>2,286</u>
	<b>\$502,918</b>	<b>\$472,966</b>	<b>\$465,898</b>

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 45 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a multi-year contract for a period of not more than 3 years for the purpose of providing winter road maintenance on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems to be in the best interest of the Town.**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 46 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 for emergency services planning. (\$3,500 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$3,500 expended)**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 47 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$277,564 to continue round-the-clock, 24/7 dedicated paramedic coverage and related administrative support services provided by Mid Coast Health Services. (\$238,920 raised and appropriated in 2014 and \$34,800 from fund balance; \$273,560 expended).**

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 48 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$180,000 for the operating and capital expenses of three fire and rescue providers as follows:**

	<b>2015</b>	2014	2014 Expended
Harpswell Neck Fire and Rescue	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
Orr's-Bailey Island Fire and Rescue	60,000	60,000	60,000
Cundy's Harbor Volunteer Fire	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>
	<b>\$180,000</b>	<b>\$180,000</b>	<b>\$180,000</b>

*Recommended by Selectmen*

*Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 49 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,790 for other Emergency Services and Management.**

	<b>2015</b>	2014	2014 Expended
Back-up ALS & Central Communications	\$2,040	\$2,840	\$1,458
Fire Warden	2,200	2,200	1,700
Emergency Management	4,550	8,550	3,340
Dry Hydrant Operations	<u>4,000</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>3,850</u>
	<b>\$12,790</b>	<b>\$16,090</b>	<b>\$10,348</b>

*Recommended by Selectmen*

*Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 50 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$28,000 for Street Lighting.**  
(\$23,000 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$23,727 expended)

*Recommended by Selectmen*

*Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 51 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,502 for communication services with Cumberland County.** (\$29,625 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$29,554 expended)

*Recommended by Selectmen*

*Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 52 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$332,164 for Law Enforcement services with Cumberland County.** (\$324,415 raised and appropriated in 2014 and \$35,630 appropriated from the vehicle reserve; \$359,794 expended)

*Recommended by Selectmen*

*Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 53 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$184,842 and appropriate \$37,500 from the Vehicle/Vehicle Equipment Replace Account for Marine Wardens and Shellfish Conservation related services, to include the replacement of a vehicle, with Cumberland County.** (\$185,226 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$160,541 expended)

*Recommended by Selectmen*

*Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 54 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,000 to contract for management and oversight of Marine Resources and Shellfish Conservation activities.**  
(\$30,000 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$15,998 expended and \$14,002 carried forward)

*Recommended by Selectmen*

*Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

*original*

**Art. 55 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,000 for boat operations for the Marine Patrol boat. (\$6,000 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$1,836 expended).**

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 56 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,880 for General Assistance and Health & Welfare Agencies as follows:**

	<b>2015</b>	2014	2014 Expended
General Assistance	\$15,000	\$18,000	\$8,229
Independence Association	1,500	1,500	1,500
Midcoast Maine Community Action	730	730	730
Coastal Transportation	1,200	1,200	1,200
People Plus	1,500	1,500	1,500
Spectrum Generations	1,500	1,500	1,500
Family Crisis Shelter	500	500	500
Sexual Assault Response	250	250	250
Tedford Shelter	1,000	1,000	1,000
Big Brothers/Big Sisters	500	500	500
Respite	1,600	1,500	1,500
Midcoast Hunger Prevention	3,200	3,000	3,000
American Red Cross	1,350	1,250	1,250
Day One	250	250	250
Oasis Health Network	1,300	1,200	1,200
Family Focus	500	500	500
Habitat for Humanity	0	500	500
Lifeflight Foundation	500	0	0
YMCA	500	0	0
	<u>\$32,880</u>	<u>\$34,880</u>	<u>\$25,109</u>

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 57 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$132,691 for Curtis Memorial Library in Brunswick. (\$128,204 raised & appropriated in 2014; \$128,204 expended)**

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 58 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,969 for Cultural purposes as follows:**

	<b>2015</b>	2014	2014 Expended
Orr's Island Library	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000
Cundy's Harbor Library	15,300	13,800	13,800
Ash Point/Harpswell Neck Library	4,525	1,500	1,500
Harpswell Historical Society	3,000	3,000	3,000
Pejepscot Historical Society	500	500	500
Memorial Observances	1,600	1,600	2,130
Bailey Island Library Hall	2,544	2,411	2,411
Five River Arts Alliance	500	500	500
	<u>\$40,969</u>	<u>\$36,311</u>	<u>\$36,841</u>

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 59 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 for the Harpswell Business Association, a Maine non-profit corporation. (\$3,000 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$3,000 expended)**

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 60 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 for the Harpswell Neck Physical Education Association, a Maine non-profit corporation. (\$800 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$800 expended)**

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 61 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to support a community fireworks display. (\$400 approved by the Board of Selectmen in 2014 from the economic development account)**

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 62 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$63,750 for Harpswell Community Broadcasting. (\$63,750 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$63,750 expended)**

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 63 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept a \$6,000 grant from Comcast pursuant to the terms of the Town's cable television franchise agreement and to appropriate the same for a principal payment on a lease-purchase agreement pursuant to which equipment, related to the public, educational and governmental needs of community broadcasting, has been acquired by the Town. (\$6,000 accepted and expended in 2014)**

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 64 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 for a warranty on equipment, acquired by the Town in a lease-purchase agreement, related to the public, educational and governmental needs of community broadcasting. (\$6,400 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$6,400 expended)**

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 65 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$77,500 for capital reserve accounts as follows:**

	<b>2015</b>	2014	2014 Expended
Boat & Motor Replacement	\$ 5,000	\$10,000	\$ 0
Recycling/Transfer Station	30,000	30,000	19,450
Vehicle & Vehicle Equip. Replacement	30,000	65,000	35,380
Office Equipment	7,500	5,000	5,500
Emergency Communications Equipment	5,000	5,000	0
Dry Hydrant	<u>0</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>0</u>
	<b>\$77,500</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>	<b>\$60,330</b>

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 66 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 for the purchase of emergency services vehicles, as determined by the Board of Selectmen, such vehicles to be owned by the Town, and leased to the local Fire Departments that have an Emergency Services Agreement with the Town on such lease terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems to be in the best interests of the Town, with such funds to be held in the Emergency Vehicle Capital Account (an interest-bearing dedicated reserve account) until vehicle purchase. (\$150,000 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$0 expended).**

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 67 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$560,000 for debt service including interest on a tax anticipation note and interest on an equipment lease-purchase agreement for community broadcasting. (\$505,000 raised and appropriated in 2014; \$490,257 expended)**

*Recommended by Selectmen  
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**Art. 68 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept a \$5,400 grant from Comcast pursuant to the terms of the Town's cable television franchise agreement and to appropriate the same as a pro-rata reimbursement to the Town, Harpswell Community Broadcasting Corporation and the three local Fire Departments for internet and cable television costs incurred by the same. (\$5,989 expended in 2014)**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 69 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to carry over, and assign fund balance accordingly, to the 2016 fiscal year any appropriated but unexpended funds at 2015 fiscal year end, provided that the funds are used for the same purpose as originally appropriated.**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 70 — To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$15,838 in committed fund balance to unassigned fund balance as the committed funds were not spent to purchase property on Lookout Point or to monitor the Cedar Beach easement.**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

*The Moderator may entertain a motion to approve Articles 71-77 as recommended by Selectmen unless a voter requests a specific article be set aside for individual consideration.*

**Art. 71 — To see if the Town will vote to fix the date of September 15, 2015 as the date when the first one-half of taxes shall be due and payable, with interest on the first installment to start after that date, and the date of December 15, 2015 as the date when the second one-half of taxes are due and payable, with interest on the second installment to start after that date, and to see if the Town will vote to charge a 6% rate of interest on unpaid taxes.**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 72 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes not yet committed, as a service to our taxpayers. Any excess prepaid in over the amount finally committed shall be repaid without interest. (36 M.R.S.A. § 506). (Excess payment of \$10.00 or less may be credited to 2015 taxes).**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 73 — To see if the Town will vote to set the interest rate to be paid by the Town on abated taxes at 6% for the period of assessment and to authorize such interest paid or abatements granted to be appropriated from overlay funds or, if necessary, from unassigned fund balance.**

*Recommended by Selectmen*



*Original*

**Art. 74 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize and direct the Board of Selectmen, at its discretion, to sell by sealed bid or public auction and to convey by quit-claim deed any real estate acquired from tax sources by the Town, or to convey the property to the prior owner upon payment in full of all taxes, interest and charges incurred by the Town. The Board of Selectmen reserves the right to reject any and all bids.**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 75 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for State, federal (including Community Development Block Grants) and other grants on the Town's behalf for purposes deemed by the Selectmen to be in the best interests of the Town; to accept such grants, including, when necessary, signing contract and related documents and accepting conditions of approval; and to expend such grant funds for any purpose for which the Town has appropriated funds.**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 76 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount in each budget category of the 2015 budget from January 1, 2016 to the 2016 Annual Town Meeting.**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 77 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell by public bid or other competitive process any and all personal property deemed excess by the Board of Selectmen pursuant to such restrictions as the Board of Selectmen may impose.**

*Recommended by Selectmen*

**Art. 78 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appropriate amounts not to exceed: \$60,000 from Municipal Revenue Sharing, \$1,623,000 from non-property tax revenue sources, and \$506,000 of unassigned fund balance to reduce the tax commitment. (\$90,000 of Municipal Revenue Sharing, \$1,502,000 of non-property tax revenue, and \$392,000 of unassigned fund balance appropriated in 2014)**


*Recommended by Selectmen*

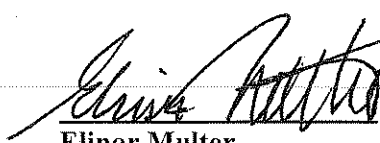
*Article 79 may be passed over if the levy limit is not exceeded by earlier decisions of the voters.*

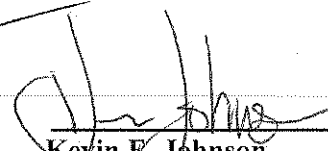
**Art. 79 — To see if the Town will vote by written ballot to increase the property tax levy limit of \$2,526,407 established for Harpswell by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit.**

The Selectmen hereby give notice that the Registrar of Voters will be available at the Town Office during regular business hours for the entire week preceding said meeting to receive applications of persons claiming the right to vote at said meeting and to make corrections to the list of voters. Registrations will be accepted at the meeting.

Given under our hand this fifth day of March, A.D. 2015.

  
Richard A. Daniel  
Harpswell Board of Selectmen

  
Elinor Multer

  
Kevin E. Johnson