

*Town of Orient*

**WARRANT  
ARTICLES**

Town of Orient  
Annual Town Meeting 2025

Aroostook, ss.

To **Barbara Sharpe**, a resident of the Town of Orient.

Greetings:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Orient, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Orient Town Hall, in said Town, on **Friday, June 13, 2025** at 4:00 P.M. to vote on articles 1-3

**Art. 1** To choose the Moderator to preside at said meeting. (Written Vote)

**Polling hours for the election of the municipal officer and school board member will be held from 4:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.;**

**Art. 2** To elect One (1) Selectperson, for a term of three years. The term of Heather Zakupowsky expiring. (Secret Ballot)

**Art. 3** To elect one (1) member of the schoolboard for a term of three years. The term of Barbara Sharpe expiring. (Secret Ballot)

**And then the Town Meeting will reconvene on Saturday June 14, 2025 at 10.00 A.M. to vote on the remaining articles 4 through 37 to wit:**

**Art. 4** To see if the Town will vote to set the date that property taxes will be due as **due upon commitment** to tax collector, and to give a **2% discount** for payment of taxes within thirty (30) days of commitment date, to fix the rate of **interest at 7.5%** for unpaid amounts beginning sixty (60) days after the commitment date, and to fix the rate of interest for **overpayments at 3.5%** per annum.

**Recommendation:** YES

**Art.5** To see if the town will vote to authorize the tax collector to accept prepayments of taxes not yet due or assessed, and to pay **interest thereon** at a rate of **0%** pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 506.

**Recommendation:** YES

**Art. 6** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town, for nonpayment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they deem advisable and to execute quit claim deeds for same; except that the Municipal Officers shall use the special sale process required by 36 M. R.S.A §943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s); and at their discretion may retain such property; and further allow the Selectmen to authorize the Treasurer to waive automatic lien foreclosures when it is in the best interest of the Town.

**Recommendation:** YES

**Art. 7** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to borrow or appropriate from **Undesignated Funds**, as they deem advisable to meet unexpected expenses or emergencies that occur during fiscal year 2025-2026.

**Recommendation:** From Undesignated \$25,000

**Art. 8** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to procure a loan, loans or a temporary loan in anticipation of taxes, for the purpose of paying obligations of the Town; such loans to be repaid during the current tax year. Also, to authorize the Selectboard, for and on behalf of the Town, at their discretion as to the time, interest and term of payment, to aggregate loans to be paid during the current year by taxes; such notes to be signed by the Selectboard and Treasurer.

**Recommendation:** YES

**Art. 9** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to enter into a 1- year contract for FY 2025-2026 with the Town of Weston for the purpose of conducting the daily operations of the Town of Orient. The contract amount of **\$50,147.00** is included in the following articles.

**Recommendation:** YES

**Art. 10** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Town Officials** wages and payroll taxes for the ensuing year. Officials to include:

Selectmen/Assessors	\$7,500
Planning Board Members (5)	\$3,200
Appeals Board (3) (if convened) \$50 per meeting	\$300
Code Enforcement Officer	\$15,000
Admin. Assistant. (contract with Weston)	\$20,000
Part-Time Office (contract with Weston)	\$24,960
ACO	\$1,250
Deputy Town Clerk	\$1,000
Registrar	\$500
Election Warden	\$560
Election Clerk	\$1,120
FICA	\$5,295
Medicare	\$1,239
PFML	\$300
Total	\$82,224
FY24-25 \$71,920.00	

**Recommendation:**

From Property Tax:	\$69,890.40	85%
From Excise Tax:	\$12,333.60	15%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$82,224.00</b>	

**Art. 11** To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise and appropriate for General Government for the ensuing year. General Government to include:

Moderator	\$225
Ambulance Representative	\$100
Travel/Mileage	\$1,100
Training	\$500
Audit	\$8,000
Legal	\$2,250
Office Expenses includes utilities, supplies, postage, bldg. maint., equipment, computer maint contract, advertising, copier and misc.	\$24,450
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$36,625</b>
FY 24-25 \$38,508	

**Recommendation:**

From Property Tax:	\$29,300	80%
From Excise Tax:	\$7,325	20%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$36,625</b>	

**Art. 12** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for a certified assessor to assist the local assessors for the ensuing year.  
FY 24-25 \$10,000.00

**Recommendation:** From Tree Growth Reimbursement: \$10,000.00

**Art. 13** To see what sum the Town will Raise and appropriate for a Revaluation; to be set aside in a reserve account.

FY 24-25 \$12,500

Current balance 03/31 \$62,415.59

**Recommendation:** From Property Tax: \$12,500

**Art. 14** To see if the Town will raise and appropriate from OVERLAY for discounts, approved tax abatements and applicable interest granted during the fiscal year 2025/2026. (*Explanation: The Selectpersons, as Assessors, are authorized to raise OVERLAY under Title 36 MRSA section 710 but require voter authorization to expend OVERLAY. Overlay cannot be more than 5% of the Tax Commitment.*)

FY 24-25 \$12,000.00

**Recommendation:** From Overlay: Yes

**Art. 15** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Town road maintenance and to designate the account as non-lapsing and to authorize the Selectpersons to expend funds into the following fiscal year as they deem appropriate.

FY 24-25 \$25,300 balance as of 5/5/25 \$2,418.46

**Recommendation:** From Property Tax: \$25,400

**Art. 16** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for grounds maintenance at Peter's Cove Cemetery and the Town Office.

FY 24-25 \$2,700.00

**Recommendation:** From Property Tax: \$2,550

**Art. 17** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Municipal Solid Waste Disposal and operation of the Transfer Station.

FY 24-25 \$68,242

**Recommendation:** From Property Tax: \$70,147

**Art. 18** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Town's Insurances. Includes Property and Casualty, Forest Fire, Liability, Unemployment and Worker's Compensation.

FY 24-25 \$12,100

**Recommendation:** From Property Tax: \$11,850

**Art.19** To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the annual Ambulance Service Contract.  
FY 24-25 \$13,100

**Recommendation:** From Property Tax: \$22,544

**Art. 20** To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for the Fire Protection Contract.  
FY 24-25 \$6,000

**Recommendation:** From Property Tax: \$6,000

**Art. 21** To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for the Snow Removal Contract and Salt and Sand.  
FY 24-25 \$100,000

**Recommendation:** From Property Tax: \$101,362.50

**Art. 22** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,688 for 2025 calendar year membership dues to the Maine Municipal Association.  
FY 24-25 \$1,675

**Recommendation:** From Property Tax: \$1,688

**Art. 23** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$765.76 for 2024-2025 dues for membership to the Northern Maine Development Commission.  
FY 24-25 \$807.43

**Recommendation:** From Property Tax: \$765.76

**Art. 24** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$536 requested by Cary Library as a user fee.  
FY 24-25 \$483

**Recommendation:** From Property tax \$536

**Art. 25** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate \$840 to contract with the Houlton Humane Society Animal Shelter. (*State Animal Welfare Law requires every town to provide an animal shelter for stray or unwanted pets.*)  
FY 24-25 \$800

**Recommendation:** From Property Tax: \$840

**Art. 26** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the amounts listed to support the following organizations:

Lifelight Foundation	\$156
Town of Danforth Library	\$75
ACAP	\$58
Aroostook Area Agency on Aging	\$100
Southern Aroostook Soil and Water District	\$100
Danforth Livable Communities	\$585
Northern Maine Veterans' Cemetery	\$200
Maine Public Radio	\$100
Community Health and Counseling Services	\$100
American Red Cross	\$150
Greater East Grand Lake Area Chamber of Commerce	\$100
MacAllister Cove Fireworks	\$350
CLIC	\$35
Danforth Summerfest	\$150
Sister Mary O'Donnell Shelter	\$312
FY 24-25 \$2,313.75	

**Recommendation:** From Property Tax: \$2,571

**Art. 27** To see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$500.00 for the youth of the town.  
(to include Project Graduation, MSB Bike raffle and other local youth activities)

**Recommendation:** From Property Tax: \$500

**Art. 28** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200 for septic disposal.  
FY 24-25 \$ 170.00

**Recommendation:** From Property Tax: \$200

**Art. 29** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer to give to the local snowmobile club, for trail grooming, signs, etc., the snowmobile license refund money returned to the Town by the State of Maine.  
FY 24-25 \$72.82

**Recommendation:** Yes, split equally between Linneus and East Grand

**Art. 30** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for costs associated with the Orient Food Pantry.  
FY 24-25 \$3,600

**Recommendation:** From Property Tax: \$5,000

**Art. 31** To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for General Assistance for the ensuing year.  
*FY 24-25 \$2,500*

**Recommendation:**

**From Undesignated: \$2,500**

**Art. 32** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for a major capital reserve expenditures account to include sand/salt shed or new town office.  
*FY 24-25 \$15,000.00*  
*Balance \$173,802.77 5/5/25*

**Recommendation:**

**From Property Tax: \$15,000**

**Art. 33** To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for the Capital Building Reserve Account.  
*FY 24-25 \$1,000*  
*Balance \$28,560.16 5/5/25*

**Recommendation:**

**From Property Tax: \$1,000**

**Art. 34** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for a Capital Road Reserve Account.  
*FY24-25 \$15,000*  
*Balance \$69,494.48 5/5/25*

**Recommendation:**

**From Property tax: \$15,000**

**Art. 35** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$30,000 from undesignated funds to reduce property taxes.

**Recommendation:**

**Yes**

**Art. 36** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the expenditure of up to \$220,000 for paving of Sunset Park and Peters Cove Roads.

**Recommendation:**

**From Undesignated Funds**

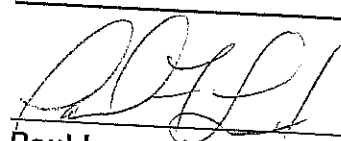
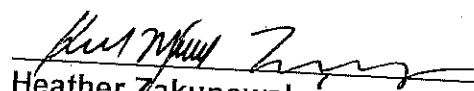

**Art. 37** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard to accept donations or gifts on the Town's behalf; such donations or gifts to be utilized towards cemetery maintenance unless otherwise specified by the donor/gifter. Unused balance to be set aside in a separate account for future use.

**Recommendation:**

**YES**




The Registrar hereby gives notice that he/she will be in session for the purpose of revising and correcting the list of voters at the Town Office one (1) hour before the above meeting.

  
Paul Lamach  
Heather Zakupowsky  
Linda Smart

The above Selectpersons signed of their own free will and in my presence this  
15 day

of May, 2024.  
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Dwayne Young, Clerk Town of Orient