

News Release

Phillips Special Town Meeting

At the regularly scheduled February 14, 2023 Phillips Select Board meeting, a warrant was signed by the Select Board to call a special town meeting. The meeting was requested at a prior Select Board meeting by a group of residents that would like to see the Board membership increased from three to five. The group requested a resolution from the Board, at that meeting, to move forward with a special town meeting on their own as opposed to this group organizing a citizen's petition. Two additional board members may result in an increase of \$6,000.00 in stipend cost as well as additional funds raised in training, travel and insurance line items.

The Special Town Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 6, 2023 at 6 PM at the Phillips Area Community Center on Depot Street.

An additional warrant article asks the town to increase the amount of the Contingency account by \$20,000.00. The amount approved at the June 16, 2022 Annual Town Meeting was \$30,000.00. The Contingency is a cushion for unanticipated and emergency spending . In January the town covered upfront costs of \$17,918.20 out of this account to bring the partially collapsed building on Main Street to the ground. Sustained increased fuel, heating, electric and repair costs make it prudent to have these funds replaced. These funds are not 'raised' dollars as they come from the undesignated surplus.

**WARRANT FOR 2023 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
PHILLIPS, MAINE**

TO: Emma Jane Andrews, a resident of the Town of Phillips in the County of Franklin and State of Maine.

GREETING: In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Phillips, qualified to vote in said Town affairs, to assemble at the **Phillips Area Community Center 21 Depot Street** in said Town, on **Monday, March 6, 2023 at 6:00 o'clock in the evening**, to act on the following articles, to wit:

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


Article 2: To see if the Town will vote to increase the size of the Select Board, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor from three to five members having staggered 3-year terms; this change, if approved, to become effective at the 2023 annual town meeting, at which time one additional member shall be elected for a 2-year term and one additional member for a 3-year term, with all elections thereafter for the office of Select Board, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor being for a 3-year term.

Article 3: To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to increase the amount available in the town contingency account from \$30,000 set at the June 16, 2022 Annual Town Meeting, to a total of \$50,000, to appropriate said funds from the undesignated fund.

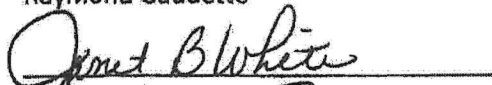
Statement of fact: The contingency is in place to handle unanticipated expenses to the budget. This year the contingency was drawn down due to the upfront cost of demolition to the building that collapsed on Main Street. With sustained high cost of fuel and vehicle maintenance expenses and other operating costs, it is desirable to have the original 30K available if needed, for this year's budget.

Given under our hands this 14th day of February, 2023

TOWN OF PHILLIPS SELECT BOARD



Raymond Gaudette



Janet White



Larry Pinkham

The Registrar of Voters will be at the Phillips Area Community Center, 21 Depot Street one half hour before the meeting, to accept registration of those becoming eligible to vote. A person who is not registered to vote cannot vote in any election.