

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 **Saturday, June 15, 2023 at 9:00 o'clock in the morning**, to act on the following articles, to wit:

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Article 2: To elect a Town Clerk for the ensuing year. Written ballot needed.

Article 3: To elect a Select Board Member for a three year term. Written ballot.

Article 4: To elect two School Board Directors to MSAD #58 for a three year term. Written ballot.

Article 5: To see if the Select Board will perform the duties of the Assessors and Overseers of the Poor.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of **\$1,680,198.00** established for the Town of Phillips by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the following Articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limit.

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed, and to pay no interest thereon, pursuant to MRSA Title 36 §506.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to make property taxes due and payable on October 1, 2024 and April 1, 2025, and, in accordance with MRSA Title 36 §505(4), charge interest on overdue taxes at the rate of 8.5% per annum after the due dates.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate such anticipated revenues as State Revenue Sharing, vehicle and boat excise taxes, Homestead Exemption Reimbursement, Tree Growth Reimbursement, supplemental taxes, license fees and such other miscellaneous revenues to be received in the 2024–2025 fiscal year to reduce the taxes committed. **Anticipated: \$744,095.00**

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate State of Maine Local Road Assistance Program (LRAP) funds for the fiscal year 2024-2025 and to authorize the expenditure of said funds for Capital Road improvements.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to apply for, accept and expend, without further action of Town Meeting, money from the State, Federal or other governmental units or private sources which become available during the year, and to authorize the Select Board to accept, on behalf of the Town, any and all unconditional gifts of any type of property.

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to accept late payment of taxes on real estate after the date of automatic foreclosure on tax lien mortgages, if deemed to be in the best interest of the Town and authorize the Treasurer, after review by the Select Board, to file waivers of foreclosure on properties that are not in the best interest of the Town to foreclose on.

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to dispose of tax-acquired property as they deem in the best interests of the Town, except that the municipal officers shall first use the sale process in 36 M.R.S. §943-C if they choose to sell property to anyone other than the former owner, as defined in §943-C. For sales to someone other than the former owner, excess sale proceeds, as defined in 36 M.R.S. §943-C, shall be returned to the former owner.

Article 14: To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to make final determination regarding opening and closing of roads for Winter Maintenance pursuant to MRSA Title 23 §2953 and to set the weight limits for those roads.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to sell by sealed bid or auction such equipment, vehicles and/or furniture as are no longer necessary for Town operations and to appropriate proceeds to put in its corresponding reserve fund accounts. And, further, to authorize the Selectmen to spend from those reserve accounts.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to use funds from *Overlay* to pay for tax abatements and applicable interest granted during the 2024-2025 fiscal year

Article 17: To see if the Town will direct the Select Board to establish a five member advisory committee to investigate the viability of a new Fire Station at a location in Phillips, to oversee the application process for a Congressionally Directed Spending Grant and advise on the town's matching fund commitment for the 2026 application year.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to rescind the actions taken under Article 17 at the annual Town meeting held on June 17, 2023, and thereby rescind authority for the board to apply for a Congressionally Directed Spending Grant to construct a Public Safety Building at 15 Russell Street, rescind approval to transfer \$138,750,00 from undesignated funds, and rescind approval to establish a Building Reserve Account with the same \$138,750.00 if said grant was not approved.

Article 19: To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to carry forward ,appropriate and spend unexpended balances in Capital Roads, Gravel and Capital Project accounts.

Article 20: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to use from Unassigned Funds an amount not to exceed \$50,000 to meet unanticipated expenses or emergencies, if deemed advisable, during the fiscal year 2024-2025.

Article 21 : To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$16,696.00** for **Debt Service** payments.

Link Belt Excavator (Matures 10/2/2025) \$16,696.00

Article 22 : To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$631,980.00** for the **PUBLIC WORKS/HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT** for the fiscal year 2024-2025.

The Public Works/Highway Department budget includes the operational expenses required for maintaining and improving the Town's 40.31 miles of roads and the 57.91 miles of roads for winter maintenance. This budget covers salaries and benefits for the Road Commissioner, 2 full-time employees and part-time call-in employees; operating costs for the Town Garage, repair and maintenance of the department's equipment and vehicles, winter sand and salt, gravel, patch, minor equipment purchases, utilities and operating consumables including gas/diesel and **\$120,000.00** for Capital Road improvements.

Article 23 : To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$150,000.00** from Unassigned Funds to be used for Tax Reduction

Article 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$225,690.00** for **GENERAL ADMINISTRATION** for fiscal year 2024-2025.

The General Administration Budget includes salary and benefits for the Town Manager/Treasurer/Tax Collector and part-time office assistant(s); tax lien fees, office supplies, annual financial audit, software support and licensing fee; training and travel; office equipment maintenance; dues, fees and postage. **Town Clerk Budget** includes an annual stipend, office expenses, and pay for a Deputy and ballot clerks, travel/training and dues/fees and includes the **Registrar of Voters** annual stipend. **Select Board Budget** includes stipends, general liability and public officials' insurance, legal fees, advertising, travel/training, tax acquired property maintenance and MMA dues. **Health Officer Budget** includes annual pay compensation. **Municipal Buildings Budget** includes building maintenance and repair, equipment maintenance and repair, utilities-including Food Pantry expenses at 15 Russell Street, supplies and property and casualty insurance. **Planning and Assessing Budget** includes salary for the Code Enforcement Officer and Plumbing Inspector, AVCOG annual dues, office supplies, advertising fees and travel/training for CEO, Planning Board and the Appeals Board; contracted assessing service, map updates and Registry of Deeds fees. **Town Parks** includes repair and supplies..

Administration:	\$139,819.00
Town Clerk/Registrar of Voters:	\$ 12,176.00
Planning & Assessing:	\$ 21,992.00
Health Officer:	\$ 602.00
Town Parks	\$ 500.00
Selectmen:	\$ 32,640.00
Municipal Building:	\$ 17,950.00

Article 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$108,976.00** for **PUBLIC SAFETY** for the fiscal year 2024-2025.

Street Lights	\$ 7,000.00
Ambulance	\$31,400.00
Animal Control	\$ 7,356.00
Hydrant Rental (governed by Maine PUC)	\$63,220.00

Article 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$136,752.00** for the **FIRE DEPARTMENT** for the fiscal year 2024-2025.

The Fire Department Budget includes a stipend for the Fire Chief and pay for the volunteer firefighters, utilities, repair and maintenance of the vehicles and equipment, operating supplies, insurance, gas/diesel, training, dues and fees, physicals and immunizations as required by law, building maintenance and repairs and new equipment purchases.

Article 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$150,071.00** for **SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING** for the fiscal year 2024-2025.

The Solid Waste & Recycling Budget includes wages for 2 part-time employees and a part time call-in, trucking and disposal fees, repair and maintenance of the compactor and containers, required training and immunizations, state licensing fees, building maintenance and repairs, operating supplies, tire disposal, universal waste disposal and construction/building waste disposal.

Article 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$25,109.00** for **CARE OF CEMETERIES** for the fiscal year 2024-2025.

Article 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$6,800.00** for **CARE OF PARKS** for the fiscal year 2024-2025.

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$4,000.00** for **GENERAL ASSISTANCE** for the fiscal year 2024-2025.

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$71,000.00 to the **TOWN'S RESERVE ACCOUNTS** and to allow the Select Board to authorize expenditures from these accounts.

Public Works:	\$25,000.00
Fire Department:	\$25,000.00
Transfer Station:	\$10,000.00
Veterans Grave Stone Repair:	\$ 5,000.00
Town Office:	\$ 1,000.00
Sidewalks:	\$ 5,000.00

The Reserve Accounts are for Capital Equipment/Vehicle purchases for the Fire Department, Public Works Department and Capital Equipment/Vehicle purchases and Capital Improvements for the Transfer Station and Capital Improvements to the Town Office and repairs to Veterans and Ancient grave stones. Amounts in these accounts as of this printing:

Public Works:	\$166,706.00
Fire Department:	\$ 62,635.19
Transfer Station:	\$ 19,944.05
Veterans Grave Stone Repair:	\$ 207.50
Town Office:	\$ 14,733.03
Town Revaluation	\$165,900.29
Sidewalks	\$ 28,588.00

Article 32 : To see if the Town will vote to **appropriate** to the **North Franklin Snowmobile Club** monies received from the State for the Town's share of the reimbursement of snowmobile registrations for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Article 33 : To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$3,000.00** for the **PHILLIPS CONSERVATION COMMISSION** for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Article 34: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$12,000.00** for the **PHILLIPS LIBRARY** for the fiscal year 2024-2025 and recommend matching funds.

Article 35: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,000.00** for the **PHILLIPS AREA FOOD PANTRY** for the fiscal year 2024-2025.

Article 36: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the requested sum of **\$500.00** for **U.S.A. FLAGS FOR VETERANS' GRAVES** and **Telephone Pole Placement** for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Article 37: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$750.00 for the **Phillips Little League** for the fiscal year 2024-2025.

Article 38: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$250.00 for the **NARROW GAUGE RIDERS ATV CLUB** for fiscal year 2024-2025 and recommend matching funds.


Article 39: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500.00 for the **Phillips Historical Society** for fiscal year 2024-2025 and recommend matching funds.

Article 40: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500.00 for the **Phillips Chamber of Commerce** for the Phillips Old Home Days Parade for fiscal year 2024-2025 and recommend matching funds.

Article 41: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for the **Phillips Area Community Center** for fiscal year 2024-2025 and recommend matching funds.

Given under our hands this 4th day of June 2024


TOWN OF PHILLIPS SELECTBOARD



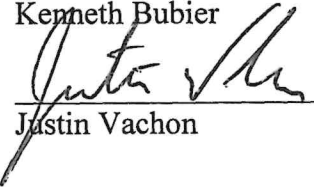
Larry Pinkham



Eugene Caton



Kenneth Bubier



Justin Vachon



Janet White

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

A Town- Wide Revaluation is scheduled to begin
in August of 2024 by Parker Appraisals

TOWN OF PHILLIPS BUDGET SUMMARY			
	2024-2025		2024-2025
DEPARTMENT	6/17/2023 BUDGET PASSED	SELECT BOARD	BUDGET COMMITTEE
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$221,892.00	\$225,679.00	\$225,679.00
PUBLIC WORKS	\$602,709.00	\$631,980.00	\$631,980.00
PUBLIC SAFETY	\$227,127.00	\$245,728.00	\$245,728.00
SOLID WASTE	\$143,225.00	\$150,071.00	\$150,071.00
CEMETERY MAINTENANCE	\$18,425.00	\$25,109.00	\$25,109.00
PARKS MAINTENANCE	\$5,430.00	\$6,800.00	\$6,800.00
GENERAL ASSISTANCE	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
LIBRARY	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
COMMUNITY SERVICES	\$14,250.00	\$13,500.00	\$13,500.00
PUBLIC WORKS RESERVE	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
FIRE DEPT RESERVE	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
TRANSFER STATION RESERVE	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
VETERAN STONE RESERVE	\$3,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
TOWN OFFICE RESERVE	\$5,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
SIDEWALKS		\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
TOWN REVALUATION	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
EQUIPMENT FINANCING	\$34,350.00	\$16,696.00	\$16,696.00
CONTINGENCY	\$40,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
TOTAL	\$1,396,408.00	\$1,452,563.00	\$1,452,563.00