2020
TOWN OF UNION
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
WARRANT

MUNICIPAL ELECTION
July 14, 2020 - TUESDAY
8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
William L. Pullen Municipal Building

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
July 20, 2020 - MONDAY
7:00 p.m.
William L. Pullen Municipal Building

TO: Richard Niles, Resident of the Town of Union, in the County of Knox.

GREETINGS: In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Union in said County and State, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the William L. Pullen Municipal Building in said Town on Tuesday, the Fourteenth day of July, A.D. 2020 at 8:00 a.m. in the morning, then and there to act upon Article 1 and by secret ballot on Article 2 through 17 as set out below;

and to notify and warn said inhabitants to meet at the William L. Pullen Municipal Building in said Town on Monday, the Twentieth day of July, A.D. 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the evening, then and there to act on Articles 18 through 42 as set out below, to wit:

ARTICLE 1. To elect a Moderator to preside at said meeting and to vote by written ballot.

ARTICLE 2. To elect all necessary Municipal Officers/Officials and School Committee Members as are required to be elected.

Polls shall be opened at 8:00 a.m. and closed at 8:00 p.m.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for fiscal year 2020-2021 for debt service or act thereon:

A. Road Bond $113,000.00
B. Solar Project $ 69,000.00
TOTAL $182,000.00

These funds have already been committed during previous town meetings and these are the payment amounts.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS 4-0
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS 9-0
ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the issuance of general obligation securities in an amount not to exceed $1,800,000.00 for the purpose of Clary Hill Road culvert replacement, road paving, and payment of previous bond, with the dates, maturities, denominations, interest rates, place of payment, form and other details of the securities and like provisions for the sale of the securities, to be determined by the Selectmen in the best interests of the Town. The proceeds of the borrowing shall be utilized only for the purpose of the borrowing stated above and the Selectmen are hereby authorized to make such assurances and representations as may be necessary, appropriate or convenient for the purposes of the borrowing, to apply the proceeds to the stated purposes of the borrowing, and to conduct such other activities as may be required.

This will reduce our interest rate on our current bond. The public works budget below does not have any money allocated for paving and road repair without this bond. Previous municipal bond will be paid off at an expected lower interest rate.

Total Town Indebtedness if Article 4 is approved:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Debt outstanding and unpaid:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal</td>
<td>$557,353.62</td>
<td>As of June 30, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>$106,431.32</td>
<td>As of December 31, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schools</td>
<td>$1,078,381.11</td>
<td>As of June 30, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Authorized and Unissued:</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt to be Issued if Article 4 is Approved:</td>
<td>$1,800,000.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Indebtedness if Article 4 is approved:</td>
<td>$3,542,166.05</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Municipal Debt includes the road bond and copier lease.

Cost of the General Security Obligation

At an estimated average interest rate of 2.0% over a term of ten (10) years, the estimated cost of issuing the general security obligation will be:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>$1,800,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Interest</td>
<td>$187,491.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Debt Service</td>
<td>$1,987,491.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The validity of the debt and of the voters’ ratification of the debt may not be affected by any errors in the estimate of the cost of the general security obligation. If the actual amount of the total debt service for the general security obligation issue varies from the estimate, the ratification by the electors is nevertheless conclusive and the validity of the obligation is not affected by reason of the variance.

Laura J. Curtis, Treasurer
Town of Union

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $597,880.00 for fiscal year 2020-2021 for General Government.

This includes Insurances, Payroll, Office Personnel, and Building Maintenance. This has been reduced by $11,988.00 from the previous year.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS 4-0
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS 9-0

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $603,898.00 for fiscal year 2020-2021 for Protection:

This includes ACO, Fire, Ambulance, and Planning Department. The ambulance budget has a total increase of $155,200.00 but only an additional tax amount of $31,319.00. ACO is down $650.00 and Planning up $229.00.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS 4-0
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS 8-0

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $62,164.00 for fiscal year 2020-2021 for Health and Sanitation.

This includes Septic Waste and Tri-County Solid Waste; this is down $136.00.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS 4-0
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS 8-0

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $569,450.00 for fiscal year 2020-2021 for Highway and Bridges and Paving.

This has been reduced by $375,000.00 in paving. The bond article will allow us to pave and do repairs this year.
BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS  4-0
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS  7-1

ARTICLE 9.  To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $14,500.00 for fiscal year 2020-2021 for Parks and Recreation.

The budget is down $1,260.00 and is partially funded by a dedicated trust fund and carryovers. Approximate net to raise is $9,000.00.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS  4-0
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS  8-0

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $45,707.00 for fiscal year 2020-2021 for Social Security.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS  4-0
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS  8-0

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $59,600.00 for fiscal year 2020-2021 for Cemeteries.

The Cemetery budget is up $15,750.00 due to mowing cost. Bids for one year were $55,000.00, so Public Works will continue to do it for $15,000.00 less! Some cemetery funds come from perpetual care and do not raise taxes.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS  4-0
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS  8-0

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of $12,000.00 for fiscal year 2020-2021 for General Assistance.

These funds do not raise taxes but are funded under a dedicated trust fund.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS  4-0
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS  8-0

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $327,006.00 for fiscal year 2020-2021 for Unclassified.

This includes Reserve Accounts, Dispatch, Common maintenance and Emergency Management and Outside Agencies. Reduced accounts include: Outside Agencies -$7,508.00; Reserves -$59,000.00; Common Maintenance -$1,500.00; and EMA - $225.00. Increases include: Dispatch $3,707.00; and Retirement $1,000.00. Total budget is down $63,500.00!

BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS  4-0
ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the following General Fund revenue and dedicated revenue sources to be used toward the 2020-2021 budget appropriations of the Town of Union, thereby decreasing the amount required to be raised by property taxes or act thereon:

- State Revenue Sharing $ 98,000.00
- Ambulance Billing and Assessments $ 427,000.00
- General Assistance Reimbursement $ 5,000.00
- Parks and Recreation Pulleen Investment $ 2,300.00
- Animal Control Fees $ 2,300.00
- Local Road Assistance Program $ 50,000.00
- Excise Tax $ 470,000.00
- Scholarship Trust Funds $ 45,000.00
- Cemetery Perpetual Care $ 1,900.00
- Other Revenue and Fees $ 50,000.00

**TOTAL** $1,151,500.00

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to carry the unexpended balances in the following accounts for the ensuing fiscal year:

- Ambulance
- Parks and Recreation
- Cemeteries
- Animal Control
- Union Assistance Fund

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from fund balance the following overdrafted account:

- Paving and Road Construction $20,000.00

*This is estimated at the time of printing.*

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to reduce the amounts to raise by taxes if other revenues become available.

*This will enable the Board of Selectmen to use other revenues such as COVID-19 funding to reduce taxes.*

ARTICLE 18. To choose all other necessary Municipal Officials or act thereon:

One Trustee of the Cemetery Trust Fund (three-year term)
Term of Lee MacFarland
Four Members of the Budget Committee (three-year term)
Terms of Barry Norris, Dan Day, John Mountainland, and Wayne Kirkpatrick

One Trustee of the William Pullen Fund (four-year term)
Term of Irene Hawes

ARTICLE 19. Shall the Ordinance entitled “2020 Amendment to Town of Union Land Use Ordinance” be enacted?

ARTICLE 20. Shall the Ordinance entitled “Union Fire & Rescue Insurance Claim and Restitution Ordinance” be enacted?

ARTICLE 21. Shall the Ordinance entitled “Canine Control Ordinance” be enacted?

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to approve the amendment to the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization Interlocal Cooperative Agreement as appears below in this Article and made a part hereof:

TRI-COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION
INTERLOCAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

Part 4 – FINANCE

Section 4.2 In-Kind Contributions.

(a) Subject to prior approval by the Joint Board, credit shall be given to the parties for in-kind contributions to the Corporation. Credit amounts shall be based upon actual costs and shall be limited to administrative overhead, office space, telephone, equipment and supplies, and to costs of obtaining real property acquired and provided by a party for a facility site.

(b) The Corporation agrees to provide an annual in-lieu-of-taxes credit payment to the Member Town in which the Facility is located equal to the amount of property tax revenue lost as a result of the Corporation’s tax-exempt status.

Purpose: The purpose of this proposed amendment to the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization Interlocal Cooperative Agreement is to change the manner of recognizing in-kind contributions to a Member hosting the facility from an actual payment to a credit.

ARTICLE 23. To see if the Town will vote to approve the amendment to the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization Interlocal Cooperative Agreement as appears below in this Article and made a part hereof:

TRI-COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION
INTERLOCAL COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

Part 3 – ADMINISTRATION
Section 3.2 Joint Board. The operation and management responsibilities of the organization shall be delegated to Directors designated as the Joint Board. At least one Director from each Member Town shall be a municipal officer. Additional Directors and alternates may be municipal officers or municipal officials. It is desirable, but not required, that Directors and alternates be municipal officers (Selectmen) or municipal officials. The apportionment of Directors among the member communities shall be as follows: one Director from each Member Town with a population of 1,000 or less; two Directors from each Member Town with a population of 1,001 to 2,500; three Directors from each Member Town with a population greater than 2,500. Initial allocation of seats on the Joint Board shall be delegated to Member Towns in accordance with populations reflected by 1988 Maine Department of Human Services census data. Subsequent allocations shall be made based upon United States Census Bureau data, beginning with 1990 reports, or upon population data provided by the Maine Department of Health and Human Services, whichever is more current. Directors and alternates from each Member Town shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen of that town to serve a term of one year. Each Director or alternate may be reappointed to such terms indefinitely. The Board of Selectmen of each Member Town shall appoint one alternate member to the Joint Board. An alternate may be appointed by the chairman of the Joint Board as a voting member of that body at any time a Director from his or her respective Member Town is absent when a vote is taken. Under no other circumstances may an alternate have voting power. Each Director, or voting alternate where appropriate, shall cast one vote.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this proposed amendment to the Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization Interlocal Cooperative Agreement is to eliminate the requirement that all members of the Joint Board be either municipal officers (Selectmen) or municipal officials. Restricting membership on the Joint Board to municipal officers or officials has proven problematic. This amendment will allow the Selectmen of each Member Town to appoint non-governmental representatives to the Joint Board.

**ARTICLE 24.** To see if the Town of Union will authorize the Board of Selectmen, with a four-fifths vote, to transfer up to 10% of unexpended balances between accounts as needed or act thereon.

**ARTICLE 25.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to fix the salaries of the officials appointed by them under provision of MRSA Title 30-A, Section 2601, subsection 1 & 2, or act thereon.

**ARTICLE 26.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appropriate from Fund Balance an amount not to exceed $6,000.00 to be used to cover Tax Abatements for the fiscal year of 2020-2021.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS**

5-0

**BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS**

8-0

**ARTICLE 27.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell tax-acquired property, and to give quitclaim deeds thereof. Sales to other than the
former record titleholder, his or her heirs, devises or assigns shall be by the best means available to obtain the maximum price, and to expend such funds as the majority of the Board of Selectmen shall decide, except that the Board of Selectmen shall use the special sale process required by 36 MRSA 943-C for qualifying homestead property if sold to anyone other than the former owner(s).

**ARTICLE 28.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes not yet due or assessed and no interest to accrue or act thereon.

**ARTICLE 29.** To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 MRSA Section 505 (4), will vote that property taxes shall be delinquent if not paid by November 15, 2020 and May 15, 2021, and that interest at the rate of 8% per annum shall be charged on all delinquent property taxes, or act thereon. If the due date(s) fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, then the due date(s) will fall on the next business day, and interest will start the day after.

**NOTE:** The Board of Selectmen recommends due dates of November 15, 2020 and May 15, 2021, and interest due dates of November 17, 2020 and May 18, 2021 and interest at the rate of 8% per annum. Taxpayers’ names will appear in the Town Report if taxes are not paid by the close of business on May 17, 2021.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS 8% 5-0**

**ARTICLE 30.** To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 MRSA Section 506-A, will vote to set a rate of interest to be paid on the overpayment of abated taxes from the date of overpayment or act thereon (maximum 8% and minimum 4% per annum).

**EXPLANATION:** If taxes are paid and later abated, the Town of Union must refund the abated taxes and pay interest on them.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS 4% 5-0**

**ARTICLE 31.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to use the proceeds of any payment on insurance claims, for damage occurring to Town property in the fiscal year 2020-2021, to be allocated to the municipal department whose goods or equipment were damaged, and appropriate any such insurance payment to repair or replace the damaged goods or equipment or act thereon.

**ARTICLE 32.** To see if the Town will vote to approve a Community Development Block Grant Application and/or a Quality Community Grant Application, and to submit same to the Department of Economic and Community Development or the Maine Department of Transportation, and if a grant is approved to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept said grant funds and to expend grant funds for the purpose of the grant, and to make such assurances, assume such responsibilities, and exercise such authority as is necessary and reasonable to implement such a program or act thereon.
ARTICLE 33. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to submit applications for grants, and if a grant is approved to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept said grant funds and to expend grant funds for the purposes of the grant, and to make such assurances, assume such responsibilities, and exercise such authority as is necessary and reasonable to implement such a program or act thereon.

ARTICLE 34. To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to disburse money received from the State Snowmobile Refund from the registration of snowmobiles to the Appleton Trail Makers, Inc. (Appleton) and the Hatchet Mountain Snowriders Snowmobile Club (Hope) – ½ to each club – for the purposes of maintaining their snowmobile trails in Union, to be open for the use of the public at all times while they are snow covered or act thereon.

ARTICLE 35. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to assess the Town of Washington the sum of $58,174.00, and the Town of Appleton the sum of $51,666.40 for ambulance services for the fiscal year 2020-2021 or act thereon.

ARTICLE 36. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate an additional $3,600.00 for outside agencies or act thereon.

ARTICLE 37. To see if the Town will vote to allow the Union Ambulance Department and Union Fire Department to expend monies raised by them for equipment and other operational expenses or act thereon.

ARTICLE 38. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell surplus Fire, Ambulance, Office, and Highway Department Equipment and appropriate the proceeds from the sale back to the respective departments’ Equipment Reserve Account or act thereon.

ARTICLE 39. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell or otherwise dispose of equipment and Town property with a value less than $8,000.00 per item after appraisal for fiscal year 2020-2021 or act thereon.

ARTICLE 40. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appropriate the sum of $2000.00 from Cable Franchise Fees received for fiscal year 2020-2021 to be used for preparation of material for public awareness and/or the Town of Union website or act thereon.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS 5-0
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS 8-0
ARTICLE 41. To see if the Town will vote to take the following amounts from income and interest earned on the respective scholarship accounts to fund a scholarship(s) to be awarded in the year 2020-2021 or act thereon:

B. William L. Pullen Fund* $14,639.85
C. Raymond Thurston & Belle Thurston Kinniston Fund $1,078.40
TOTAL $50,988.24

BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS 5-0

*This is a non-binding vote as the William L. Pullen Fund is under the exclusive authority of the Board of Selectmen and Pullen Trustees according to the will.

ARTICLE 42. To see if the Town will vote to permanently increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Union 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.

GIVEN UNDER OUR HANDS THIS 16th DAY OF JUNE, A.D. 2020

[Signatures]

[Names of Signatories]

UNION BOARD OF SELECTMEN

A True Copy Attest: _________________________________
RESIDENT'S RETURN

COUNTY OF KNOX
STATE OF MAINE, ss.

By virtue of the within Warrant to me directed, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Union, qualified to vote in Town affairs to assemble at the time and place and for the purpose within named, by posting this Warrant at the following public and conspicuous places within the Town including the Town Office, 567 Common Road; Common Market, 40 Burkett Road; Four Corner Variety, 1718 Heald Highway; Union Farm Equipment, 1893 Heald Highway, and Mic Mac Market, 994 Heald Highway; on the ______ day of June, A.D. 2020, the same being at least seven days prior to the within named meeting.

Attest:

Sherry Abaldo, Resident