

TOWN OF BROWNVILLE

Secret Ballot Election & Annual Town Meeting Warrant

March 17, 2025

To: Christopher Crockett, a resident of the Town of Brownville, in the County of Piscataquis and State of Maine.

Greetings:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Brownville, in said county, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the American Legion Post #92, in said town, on Monday, March 17th, 2025, at 11:45 a.m., to act on Article 1 and by secret ballot on Article 2 as set out below, and again at 6:00pm to act on Articles 3 to 32. The polling hours therefore to be from 12:00 Noon to 5 p.m.

1. **Elect Moderator @ 11:45 a.m. Vote:**
2. **Voting: 12 Noon to 5 p.m.**
3. **Town Meeting at 6 p.m. to act on Articles 3- 32**

- Article 1. To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.
- Article 2. To proceed with voting by secret ballot, as directed by statute, on the election of Town Officers for the ensuing year(s)
- One Selectperson, who shall also serve as a member of the Board of Assessors and Overseers of the Poor, for a term of three years.
 - One Director of M.S.A.D. #41 for a term of three years.
- Article 3. To choose three tellers to receive, sort and count votes.
- Article 4. To see if the voters will allow non-residents to speak.
- Article 5. To see if the Town of Brownville will set a rate of interest to be paid after the due dates on delinquent taxes. 7.5% is recommended and is charged after September 15, 2025, on unpaid taxes. (36 M.R.S.A. §505.4)
- Article 6. To see if the Town of Brownville will vote to establish that 3.5% will be paid per year on the amount of overpayment to the taxpayer who is determined to have paid an amount of real estate or personal property taxes in excess of the amount finally assessed on April 1, 2025. (36 M.R.S.A. §506 – A)
- Article 7. To see what sum of money the Town of Brownville will vote to raise and appropriate for the **General Government Budget.**

	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Recommended
Administration	\$245,600	\$290,553	\$319,222
Assessing	\$22,850	\$24,481	\$30,323
Town Office	\$19,150	\$18,550	\$23,500
Insurances	\$32,300	\$37,100	\$44,200
Totals	\$319,900	\$370,684	\$417,245

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend \$ 417,245

- Article 8. To see what sum of money the Town of Brownville will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Public Safety Budget.**

	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Recommended
EMS	\$29,050	\$39,170	\$42,877
Fire	\$97,300	\$132,803	\$149,781
Public Safety Officer	\$8,650	\$11,150	\$8,641
Ambulance	\$5,200	\$6,075	\$32,600
Animal Control	\$5,500	\$9,500	\$10,046
Street Lights	\$13,500	\$15,500	\$18,500
Fire Prot (Hydrants)	\$71,705	\$77,000	\$82,800
Code Enforcement/LPI	**	**\$23,138	\$36,763
Emergency Mgmt Agency	\$3,900	\$4,918	\$6,316
Totals	\$234,805	\$319,254	\$388,324

***In 2024 Code Enforcement and LPI moved from the General Government Administration Budget to the Public Safety Budget with their own division as reflected above.*

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend \$388,324

Article 9. To see what sum of money the Town of Brownville will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Public Works Budget**.

	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Recommended
Highway	\$314,550	\$365,074	\$361,429
Sanitation	\$138,840	\$156,590	\$161,316
Transfer Station (PSWC)	\$45,768	\$55,744	\$55,744
Cemeteries	\$32,950	\$35,733	\$39,929
Parks & Facilities	0.00	**\$2,800	\$5,816
Totals	\$532,108	\$615,941	\$624,234

*** In previous years grounds maintenance for all town facilities was reflected in the Parks & Recreation, Recreation Facilities budget.*

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend \$624,234

Article 10. To see what sum of money the Town of Brownville will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Recreation Budget**.

	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Recommended
Recreation Programs	\$21,150	\$29,880	\$38,173
Recreation Facilities	\$1,900	0.00	0.00
Recreation Snack Shack	\$1,700	\$2,050	\$2,450
Totals	\$24,750	\$31,930	\$40,623

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend \$40,623

Article 11. To see what sum of money the Town of Brownville will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Unclassified Budget**.

	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Recommended
Town Owned Prop Maint	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Library	\$17,900	\$18,766	\$19,407
Flags & Decorations	\$500	\$500	\$500
Totals	\$23,400	\$24,266	\$24,907

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend \$24,907

Article 12. To see what sum of money the Town of Brownville will vote to raise and appropriate for the **General Assistance Budget**.

	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Recommended
General Assistance	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$3,500

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend \$3,500

Article 13. To see what sum of money the Town of Brownville will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Special Projects Budget**.

	2025 Recommended
Jct. Fire Station Connex Overhead Doors	\$5,000
Comprehensive Plan	\$7,000
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	\$12,000

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend \$12,000

Article 14. To see what sum of money the Town of Brownville will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Reserve Funds Budget**.

	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Recommended
Administration	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
Fire	\$25,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
Highway	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
LRAP-Paving	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$25,000
Sanitation	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$10,000
Wages	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$2,500
Fire Small Equipment	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Recreation	\$1,000	\$2,500	\$2,500
Revaluation	\$0	\$0	15,000
Totals	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$131,000	\$137,500	\$132,500

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend \$132,500

Article 15. To see if the Town of Brownville will vote to re-appropriate **\$66,355** from the following **2024 Carry Forward Accounts** in addition to the Town Budget:

	Amount		Amount
Assessing (Maps)	\$1,500	Town Owned Prop Maint	\$1,678
Comprehensive Plan	\$3,773	Animal Control	\$6,972
Emergency Fuel	\$16,254	Brownville Days	\$5,963
Recreation Department	\$22,661	Fire Contract Income	\$5,500
Rec Snack Shack	\$2,054		

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend Passage of this Article

Article 16. To see what sum of money the Town of Brownville will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Debt Obligation Budget**.

	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Recommended
Public Works Loader	\$0	\$43,175	\$43,175
Public Works 1-Ton	\$0	\$0	\$18,000
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			\$61,175

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend \$61,175

Article 17. To see if the Town of Brownville will vote to authorize the Board of Selectpersons, on behalf of the Town of Brownville, to sell and dispose of any town owned property, real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of Taxes, Water Bills, and Sewer Bills thereon, on such terms as they may deem advisable, and to execute a quitclaim deed for such real estate, except that the Board of Selectpersons shall first use the sale process in 36 M.R.S. § 943-C if the tax-acquired property will be sold to anyone other than the former owner. For sales to someone other than the former owner, excess sale proceeds, as required by 36 M.R.S. § 943-C, shall be returned to the former owner. If the Board of Selectpersons opt to sell the property, before selling the property using

the sale process in 36 M.R.S. § 943-C, the Selectboard shall authorize the treasurer to offer to sell the real estate back to the immediate prior owner of record, his/her estate, heirs or assigns on or before a date certain for the total taxes, water & sewer bills, cost and interest owed, within a period to be set by the Selectboard; and further to allow the Selectboard to authorize the Treasurer to waive automatic lien foreclosures when it is in the best interest of the Town.

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend a yes vote.

Article 18. To see if the Town of Brownville will vote to authorize the Board of Selectpersons to transfer funds between operating accounts approved in this warrant, based upon changes and the un-anticipated needs of the Town during the current fiscal year of 2025. The total expenditure of all accounts shall not exceed the approved budget. All such transfers shall be so identified at the next annual town meeting.

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend a yes vote.

Article 19. To see if the Town of Brownville will vote to authorize the Board of Selectpersons to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount in each budget category of the 2025 annual budget during the period from January 1, 2026 to the 2026 Annual Town Meeting.

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend a yes vote.

Article 20. To see if the Town of Brownville will vote to authorize the Board of Selectpersons to appropriate money from the following projected revenue sources in order to reduce the 2025 General Commitment (the following are estimates).

	2024 Estimate	2024 Actual	2025 Estimate
Motor Vehicle & IFW Excise	\$220,000	\$252,204	\$230,000
Tree Growth Reimbursement	\$60,000	\$ 51,170	\$60,000
State Revenue Sharing	\$325,000	\$323,195	\$350,000
Homestead Reimbursement	\$115,000	\$149,199	\$130,000
Other Revenue	\$140,650	\$209,821	\$152,543
Perpetual Care (Cemeteries)	\$10,000	\$ 10,000	\$0
Totals	\$870,650	\$995,589	\$922,543

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend a yes vote.

Article 21. To see what amount the Town of Brownville will vote to appropriate from **Undesignated/Unrestricted (surplus)** to reduce the **2025 Tax Commitment**.

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend for 2025 - \$85,000

Article 22. To see what sum of money, if any, the Town of Brownville will vote to authorize the Board of Selectpersons to appropriate from the Undesignated/Unrestricted Fund (surplus) as they deem advisable to meet unanticipated emergencies that occur during the fiscal year 2025.

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend \$10,000

Article 23. To see if the Town of Brownville will vote to authorize the Board of Selectpersons to dispose of town-owned surplus personal property as well as abandoned and unclaimed or surplus property acquired by the town, on such terms as they deem advisable.

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend a yes vote.

Article 24. To see if the Town of Brownville will vote to approve and appropriate the sum of \$289,466 for 2025 Water Department operations as requested in the 2025 Water Department operating budget, to be funded from Water Department rates.

	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Recommended
Water	\$252,250	\$289,519	\$289,466

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend Approval

Article 25. To see if the Town of Brownville will vote to approve and appropriate the sum of \$211,553 for 2025 Sewer Department operations as requested in the 2025 Sewer Department operating budget, to be funded from Sewer Department rates.

	2023 Budget	2024 Budget	2025 Recommended
Sewer	\$187,823	\$211,569	\$211,553

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend Approval

Article 26. To see if the Town of Brownville will vote to appropriate the Snowmobile, ATV Grant Revenue from the State for 2025 Licensing fees, to the Brownville Snowmobile Club, Ebecmee Snowmobile Club and K.I. Riders ATV Club under the Treasurer’s approval upon receiving proper documentation to release the funds.

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend Approval

Article 27. To see if the Town of Brownville will vote to accept any un-anticipated funds that the Town receives and have the Town Treasurer receive the funds and allocate them to the correct accounts.

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend Approval

Article 28. To see if the Town of Brownville will vote to ratify the overdrafts in the following 2024 accounts totaling \$3,505 from the undesignated/unrestricted fund (surplus):

	Amount		Amount
Insurances	\$1,799	Street Lights	\$1,127
Town Office	\$326	Fire Protection Fees (Hydrants)	\$253

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend a yes Vote

Article 29. To see if the Town of Brownville will authorize the Board of Selectpersons, on behalf of the Town of Brownville, to accept grant funds, as they deem advisable, and appropriate such grant funds and any required in-kind match for the purpose of the grant.

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend a yes Vote

Article 30. To see if the Town of Brownville will vote to authorize the tax collector to enter into a standard agreement with taxpayers establishing a “tax club” payment plan for property taxes, whereby: (1) the taxpayer agrees to pay specified monthly payments to the town based on the his/her estimated and actual obligation for current year property taxes; (2) the town agrees not to charge interest on timely payments made pursuant to the tax club agreement; (3) the town authorizes the collector to accept tax club payments for current year taxes which may be due prior to the commitment of those taxes; (4) the agreement is automatically terminated if a scheduled payment is late, and the taxpayer then becomes subject to the same due date and interest date and rate as other taxpayers who are not participating in a tax club; (5) only taxpayers who do not have outstanding tax obligations for prior tax years are eligible to participate in the tax club program; and (6) taxpayers wishing to participate in a tax club for a particular property tax year shall enter an agreement with the town by a publicly-advertised deadline determined by the tax collector.

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend a yes Vote

Article 31. To see if the Town of Brownville will vote to appropriate \$5,000 from the Undesignated/Unrestricted (Surplus) funds for the purpose of an in-kind match for the Town to receive a \$826,860 subaward by The Nature Conservancy and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to complete the Lakeview Rd Culvert/Bridge Project in 2025.

Selectboard Recommend a yes Vote

Article 32. To see if the Town of Brownville will vote to appropriate \$5,000 from the Undesignated/Unrestricted (Surplus) funds for the purpose of an in-kind match for the Town to receive a \$200,000 award by The State of Maine Municipal Stream Crossing Program Grant to complete the Lakeview Rd Culvert/Bridge Project in 2025.

Selectboard Recommend a yes Vote

Notice is hereby given that the office of the Registrar of Voters in the Brownville Town Office (located at 586 Main Road in Brownville) will be open for the purpose of correcting the list of voters on Monday, March 17, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Given under our hands this sixth day of March in the year 2025 AD.


Byron Weymouth, Chairman


James Martin


Kevin Emery



Shelly Ekholm


Gary Chapman

Selectpersons, Town of Brownville

CLERK'S ATTESTATION

A true copy of the March 17, 2025 Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Attest: 
Alicia M. Harmon, Clerk
Town of Brownville

ATTESTATION OF RETURN

I certify that I have notified the voters of the Town of Brownville of the time and place of this Annual Town Meeting by posting an attested copy of the within Warrant at the Brownville Town Office, Brownville Post Office, and Brownville Junction Post Office; conspicuous places within the Town of Brownville at least seven days prior to said meeting.


Christopher Crockett, Resident - Town of Brownville

3/6/2025
Date