

TOWN WARRANT
SAMPLE WARRANT FOR THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING SAMPLE WARRANT
MARCH 9th & 10th, 2018

To: Luke Ahmed, a resident of the Town of Bradford, in the County of Penobscot 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 Bradford, in said County, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Bradford Community Center, in said town, on Friday, March 9th, 2018, at 10:00 a.m., then and there to act on Article 1 and by secret ballot on Articles 2-4. The polling hours therefore to be from 10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.; and to notify and warn said inhabitants to meet at the Bradford Community Center, in said town on Saturday, March 10th, 2018, at 10:00 am, then and there to act on Articles 5 through 32 as set out below:

Article 1: To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Article 2: To elect one person as Selectmen, Assessor, and Overseer of the Poor, for a term of three (3) years.

Article 3: To elect one member to the HAD #4 Board of Directors, for a term of three (3) years

Article 4: To elect one member to the School Board of Directors #64, for a term of three (3) years.

Article 5: To elect three members to the Budget Committee, two to serve a 5-year term, and one to serve a 2-year term.

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote that orders of the municipal officers for the closing of roads in winter under 23 MRSA § 2953 shall be final determinations of said closing.

Article 7: To see if the Town of Bradford will authorize the Selectmen to within the confines allowed by state statute, to accept or apply for and expend gifts, donations, bequest and grants on behalf of the Town of Bradford should such funds become available.

Article 8: To see if the Town of Bradford will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen on behalf of the Town, to sell and/ or dispose of any property acquired by tax liens after offering the property to the previous owners for payment of all back taxes, fees and interest and if they decline, advertising for sealed bids on same and starting the lowest bid acceptable and to allow the Selectmen to authorize the Treasurer to waive automatic lien foreclosures when it is in the best interest of the Town

Article 9: To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 M.R.S.A § Section 506, will authorize the Tax Collector and Town Treasurer to accept prepayment of taxes not yet committed and to pay no interest there on.

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 10: To see if the Town will set a rate of interest to be paid after the due dates on delinquent taxes.

Recommended by Budget Committee: 8% is charged after August 31st, 2018 on unpaid taxes. (MRSA § 36, Sec, 505 4-A)

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to establish that 4% interest 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 amount finally assessed on April 1, 2018. (MRSA §36, Sec, 506-A)

Recommended by the Budget Committee

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount in each budget category of the 2018 annual budget during the period from January 1, 2019 to the 2019 Annual Town Meeting.

Recommended by the Budget Committee.

Article 13: To see if the Town of Bradford will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to transfer funds between operating accounts, except the education account, approved in this warrant, based upon changes and the un-anticipated needs of the Town during the current fiscal year period provided. The total expenditure of all accounts shall not exceed the projected need to balance all accounts within the approved budget. All such transfers shall be so identified at the next annual Town Meeting.

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to allow the Board of Selectmen to sign a three (3) year winter maintenance contract for the years 2018-2021 with a two year added option.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to allow the Board of Selectmen to sign a three(3) year roadside mowing contract 2018- 2021 with the right to extend the agreement for an additional two years.

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the amount of the snowmobile refund from the State to the Bradford Snow Blazers Club for the purpose of maintaining their snowmobile trails, in the amount of \$529.60

Article 17: To see if the Town of Bradford will appropriate moving \$3,000 from Recreation Savings account to the Recreation Reserve account.

Article 18: To see if the Town of Bradford will appropriate moving \$1,500 from Fire Dept. / Ems Savings account to the Fire Dept. / EMS Reserve account.

Article 19: To see what sum of money the Town of Bradford will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the **Executive Budget**.

Budget Committee Recommends: \$201,604.00

Article 20: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the **Bradford Fire & Rescue Department**.

Budget Committee Recommends: \$55,710.00

Article 21: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the **Town Maintenance Budget**.

Budget Committee Recommends: \$55,990.00

Article 22: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for The **Cemetery Department**.

Budget Committee Recommends: \$7,900.00

Article 23: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the **Road Budget**.

Budget Committee Recommends: \$387,975.00

Article 24: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the **Animal Control Budget**.

Budget Committee Recommends: \$7,880.00

Article 25: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the **Recreation Budget**.

Budget Committee Recommends: \$9,650.00

Article 26: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate to the **Capital Improvement/Reserves Budget**.

Budget Committee Recommends: \$29,000.00

Selectmen Recommends: \$29,442.00

Article 27: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate to the **General Services Budget**.

Budget Committee Recommends: \$16,000.00

Selectmen Recommends: \$ 15,500.00

Article 28: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate to the **Public Works Budget**.

Budget Committee Recommends: \$57,463.38

Article 29: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to fund approved articles 18 to 27.

Budget Committee Recommends: Excise \$176,000.00, MDOT \$26,000.00, TIF Account \$17,000.00, Revenue Sharing \$55,000.00, Homestead Reimbursement \$50,000.00, Undesignated Revenue \$59,950.00, from surplus \$100,000.00 = **Total \$ 483,950**.
The remainder to be raised through property taxes.

Budget Committee recommends a YES vote.

Article 30: To see if the Town will vote to amend an existing municipal tax increment financing district and associated development plan known as the “LaGrange Road Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Program” (the “Original LaGrange Road TIF District”) by adopting the “First Amendment to the LaGrange Road Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Program” as on file in the Town Office and made available at the public hearing held by the Town on February 27, 2018, pursuant to the following findings, terms and provisions:

Whereas, the Town is authorized, pursuant to Chapter 207 of Title 30-A of the Maine Revised Statutes, as amended, to designate a specified area within the Town as a municipal development and tax increment financing district and to adopt a development program for such districts; and

Whereas, in 1998, the Town established the Original LaGrange Road TIF District, as approved by the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development (“DECD”);

Whereas, there is a need to provide new and continuing employment opportunities for the citizens of the Town and the surrounding region, to improve and broaden the tax base of the Town, and to improve the general economy of the Town, the surrounding region and the State of Maine; and

Whereas, there is a need to encourage the establishment, expansion, improvement, and continuation of commercial and other facilities through the establishment of municipal development and tax increment financing districts in accordance with the provision of Chapter 207 of Title 30-A; and

Whereas, due to changing economic dynamics and the needs of the Town, the Town desires to amend the Original LaGrange Road TIF District by extending the term from twenty to thirty years;

Whereas, the Town has held a public hearing on the question of amending the Original LaGrange Road TIF District as set forth in “First Amendment to the LaGrange Road Municipal Tax Increment Financing District and Development Program” (“first Amendment”) as on file and made available at Town Hall in accordance with the requirements of 30-A M.R.S. §§ 5223 and 5226, upon at least ten(10) days prior notice published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town; and

Whereas, it is expected that approval will be sought and obtained from DECD approving the aforescribed First Amendment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT VOTED BY THE TOWN OF BRADFORD:

Section 1. The Town adopts the above recitals and further finds and determines that:

- a) At least twenty- five percent (25%), by area, of the real property within the District, as amended by the First Amendment, is suitable for commercial / industrial sites as defined in 30-A M.R.S. § 5223; and
- b) The total area of the District as amended by the First Amendment does not exceed two percent (2%) of the total acreage of the Town, and the total area of all development districts within the Town (including the “District”) does not exceed five percent (5%) of the total acreage of the Town; and
- c) The aggregate value of equalized taxable property of the District as amended by the First Amendment as of April 1, 2016 does not exceed five percent (5%) of the total value of equalized taxable property within the Town as of April 1, 2017; and
- d) The District and the Development Program as amended by the First Amendment will generate substantial economic benefits for the Town and its residents, including employment opportunities, broadened and improved tax base, and economic stimulus, and therefore constitutes a good and valid public purpose.

Section 2. Pursuant to Chapter 207 of Title 30- A of the Maine Revised Statutes, as amended, the Town hereby amends the Original LaGrange Road TIF District as stated in the First Amendment as presented at the public hearing and in the form as on file at the Town Office, and by doing so the Town hereby designates and adopts the aforescribed Distric and Development Program as amended by the First Amendment.

Section 3. Pursuant to the provisions of 30- A M.R.S. § 5224, the percentage of captured assessed value to be retained in accordance with the Development Program is hereby established as set forth in the Development Program as amended in the First Amendment.

Section 4. The Town has considered all evidence, if any, presented to it with respect to any adverse economic effect on or detriment to any existing business and has found and determined that such adverse economic effect on or detriment to any existing business, if any, is outweighed by the contribution expected to be made through the District and the Development Program as amended in the First Amendment.

Section 5. The Board of Selectmen, or its duly authorized representative, is authorized, empowered, and directed to submit the application to approve the aforescribed First Amendment to DECD for review and approval pursuant to the requirements of 30- A M.R.S. §§ 5221 et. seq., without any requirement of further action by the Town, Board Selectmen, Town Meeting, or any other party.

Section 6. The Board of Selectmen, or its duly authorized representative, is authorized and empowered, at his/ her discretion, from time to time, to make such technical revisions to the First Amendment and associated application as DECD deems

reasonably necessary or convenient in order to facilitate the process for review and approval of the First Amendment, so long as such revisions are not consistent with the article or the basic structure and intent of the First Amendment.

Section 7. The foregoing designation and adoption of the First Amendment shall automatically become final and shall take full force and effect upon receipt by the Town of approval of adoption of the First Amendment by DECD, with out any requirement of further action by the Town, Board of Selectmen, Town Meeting, or any other party

Article 31: To see if the Town of Bradford will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to increase the LD 1 Growth Limitation Factor if needed for the 2018 calendar year.

Budget Committee recommends a YES vote.

Article 32: Discussion on the need for a new fire station and a committee to bring it about.

The Registrar of Voters will be available at the Bradford Town Office on March 9, 2018 to correct the voting list.

Signed this 26th day of February 2018.

Bradford Board of Selectmen:

True Copy Attest:

Vittoria J.B. Stevens

Bradford Town Clerk _____

Bruce Bailey _____

Timothy Bubar _____

Patrick Murray _____

Edward Nevells _____

Samantha Saunders _____

RESIDENT'S RETURN OF WARRANT

State of Maine
Penobscot, SS.

Bradford, Maine
February 28, 2018

Pursuant to the within warrant to be directed, I have notified and warned the Inhabitants of the Town of Bradford, qualified as therein named and posting an attested copy of said warrant at the BRADFORD TOWN OFFICE, BRADFORD POST OFFICE, BRADFORD GENERAL STORE and Bradford Web site in said Town of Bradford, being conspicuous public places in Bradford, on the 28th day of February in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Eighteen, the same being at least seven days before the date of said meeting.

Luke Ahmed _____

Resident of Bradford

