

Town of Raymond
June 10, 2025
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

TO: Nathan White, a constable of the Town of Raymond, in the County of Cumberland 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 Raymond, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to assemble in the Jordan-Small Middle School Gymnasium of said town on Tuesday, the 10th day of June, A.D. 2025, at seven (7:00) o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to act on the articles listed below.

The polls will open as soon as Article 1 has been acted upon and will remain open to vote on Articles 2 through 35 until eight (8:00) o'clock in the evening.

The Registrar hereby gives notice that the Town Clerk's Office will be open for the purpose of registering voters and correcting the list of voters on Friday, May 30, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Tuesday, June 3, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday, June 4, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Thursday, June 5, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and Friday, June 6, 2025, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Registrar will be in the Jordan-Small Middle School Gymnasium on Election Day, June 10, 2025, until the closing of the polls to register voters and to correct names and addresses.

ARTICLE 1: To elect a moderator by written ballot.

ARTICLE 2: To elect by secret ballot the following Town Officials, namely one (2) Select Board members, for three-year terms; three (3) members for the Budget-Finance Committee, for three-year terms; and one (1) member for the RSU School Board of Directors, for a three-year term.

ARTICLE 3: Referendum Question A: To see if the Town will vote to:

1. Set the date the 1st half of taxes due to October 31, 2025, and the 2nd half of taxes due to April 30, 2026;
2. Set the interest rate for unpaid balances and for abated taxes at seven and a half percent (7.5%) for the fiscal year;
3. Authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. §506, with no interest; and
4. Authorize the Select Board on behalf of the Town to sell and dispose of any property acquired by the Town for nonpayment of taxes pursuant to the policy adopted by the Select Board, as may be amended from time to time, the policy to remain consistent with State statutes and laws; in all cases conveyance to be made by municipal quitclaim deed.

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 3

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 3

ARTICLE 4: Referendum Question B: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$3,125,416** for General Government Services (Administration; Assessing; Code Enforcement; Employee Benefits; General Assistance; Insurances; Recreation; and Technology;).

The budget figures will be assigned as follows:

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|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Administration</i> | <i>\$724,316</i> |
| <i>Assessing</i> | <i>\$98,257</i> |
| <i>Code Enforcement</i> | <i>\$250,650</i> |
| <i>Employee Benefits</i> | <i>\$1,332,504</i> |
| <i>General Assistance</i> | <i>\$15,000</i> |
| <i>Insurances, Workers Comp</i> | <i>\$187,639</i> |
| <i>Recreation</i> | <i>\$294,850</i> |
| <i>Technology</i> | <i>\$222,200</i> |

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 4

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 4

ARTICLE 5: Referendum Question C: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,627,495** for Public Works.

The budget figures will be assigned as follows:

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|-----------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Public Works</i> | <i>\$1,095,156</i> |
| <i>Town Buildings</i> | <i>\$47,250</i> |
| <i>Solid Waste</i> | <i>\$457,089</i> |
| <i>Cemeteries</i> | <i>\$28,000</i> |

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 5

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 5

ARTICLE 6: Referendum Question D: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,445,806** for Public Safety.

The budget figures will be assigned as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Fire/Rescue Department</i> | <i>\$1,396,990</i> |
| <i>Animal Control</i> | <i>\$48,816</i> |

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 6

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 6

ARTICLE 7: Referendum Question E: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of Town owned personal property with value not to exceed **\$75,000**.

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 7

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 7

ARTICLE 8: Referendum Question F: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to appropriate from undesignated fund balance (surplus) to meet the unanticipated needs of the community that occur during the fiscal year and/or to adjust the tax rate as the Select Board deem advisable, an amount not to exceed **\$75,000**.

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 8

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 8

ARTICLE 9: Referendum Question G: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to transfer funds between appropriation accounts as long as the grand total of all appropriation is not exceeded, any such transfers to be approved only at a properly called public meeting of the Select Board.

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 9

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 9

ARTICLE 10: Referendum Question H: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to:

- Allow Town Staff to make application for and execute any documents related to a grant;
- Accept or reject grants, donations and/or gifts of money to the Town of Raymond; and
- Authorize the expenditure of monies awarded, donated and/or gifted for the purposes specified in the grant, donation, and/or gift.

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 10

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 10

ARTICLE 11: Referendum Question I: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to appropriate from undesignated fund balance (surplus) to reduce the property tax commitment as the Select Board deem advisable an amount not to exceed **\$700,000**.

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 11

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 11

ARTICLE 12: Referendum Question J: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate **\$511,177** from the tax increment of the Pipeline/RT 302 Tax Increment Financing District for FY 2025-2026 project proposed in the Tax Increment Financing District Development Program (*for details see Addendum 1*).

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 12

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 12

ARTICLE 13: Referendum Question K: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Tassel Top Park Enterprise fund the amount of **\$144,500** for the administration of activities at the Park, and to allocate all revenues generated by Park operations to be recorded in and retained by the Tassel Top Park Enterprise fund.

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 13

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 13

ARTICLE 14: Referendum Question L: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Recreation Programs special revenue fund the amount of **\$198,500** for the administration of activities at the programs, and to allocate all revenues generated by program operations to be recorded in and retained by the Recreation Programs Enterprise fund.

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 14

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 14

ARTICLE 15: Referendum Question M: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$578,840** for Debt Services.

The budget figures will be assigned as follows:

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|---|------------------|
| <u>2022 Lease Purchase Rescue Pumper Truck</u> | <u>\$58,063</u> |
| <u>2023 Tassel Top Snack Shack & PW Garage Design</u> | <u>\$266,800</u> |
| <u>2024 Broadband Fiber Ring Loan</u> | <u>\$253,977</u> |

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 15

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 15

ARTICLE 16: Referendum Question N: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$203,701** for the Raymond Village Library.

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 16

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 16

ARTICLE 17: Referendum Question O: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,256,744** for the Capital Improvement Program.

The budget figures will be assigned as follows:

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|--|------------------|
| <i>Public Works Equipment Reserve</i> | <i>\$325,000</i> |
| <i>Public Works Paving/Road Reserve</i> | <i>\$410,000</i> |
| <i>Municipal Facilities Improvements</i> | <i>\$85,000</i> |
| <i>Revaluation Reserve</i> | <i>\$40,000</i> |
| <i>Public Safety Fire Apparatus</i> | <i>\$361,744</i> |
| <i>Playground Improvements</i> | <i>\$35,000</i> |

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 17

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 17

ARTICLE 18: Referendum Question P: To see whether the Town will vote to carry forward any existing fund balance in the Capital Improvement Program (C.I.P.) accounts, the Healthcare Reimbursement Accounts (H.R.A.), and the Employee Compensation Account.

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 18

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 18

ARTICLE 19: Referendum Question Q: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,017,761** for the County Tax (\$80,574 is the third of five (5) annual, no-interest payments for six (6) months of taxes, January to June 2023, and **\$937,187** is for the fiscal year July 2025 to June 2026 taxes, enabling Cumberland County to move from a calendar year to a fiscal year assessment).

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 19

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 19

ARTICLE 20: Referendum Question R: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$80,250** for Provider Agencies, \$1,500 for Crescent Lake Watershed Association, \$750 for the Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce, \$67,000 for the RTP Van Service, \$10,000 for the Thomas Pond Dam Restoration, and \$1,000 to be used at the Town Manager's discretion.

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 20

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 20

ARTICLE 21: Referendum Question S: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the total sum of **\$2,221,180** from estimated non-property tax revenues to reduce the property tax commitment, together with all categories of funds, which may be available from the federal government, and any other sources.

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 21

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 21

ARTICLE 22: Referendum Question T: To see if the Town will vote to accept certain State Funds as provided by the Maine State Legislature during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and any other funds provided by any other entity including but not limited to:

Municipal Revenue Sharing

Local Road Assistance

Emergency Management Assistance

Snowmobile Registration Money

Homestead Exemption

Tree Growth Reimbursement

General Assistance Reimbursement

Veteran's Exemption Reimbursement

Business Equipment Tax Exemption (B.E.T.E.) Reimbursement

State Grant or Other Funds

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 22

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 22

ARTICLE 23: Referendum Question U: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the use of Town employees and/or Town owned equipment or independent contractor(s) hired by the Town for maintenance on private roads in special and certain circumstances where in the public's interest.

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 23

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 23

ARTICLE 24: Referendum Question V: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from undesignated fund balance **\$642,568** for employee benefits liability.

Select Board recommends - does not recommend Article 24

Budget-Finance Committee recommends - does not recommend Article 24

NOTE – If the Ladder Truck is approved to be in the warrant we will make an article to get a loan for it.