

MINUTES FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
JUNE 26, 2023

6:31 Meeting Opened by Kristy Crawford.

Article 1:

To choose a Moderator by written ballot. ***Skip Colson: Nominated by Winthrop Carter, Seconded by Stephen Seavey***

Article 2

TO SEE WHAT SUM THE TOWN OF ALEXANDER WILL AUTHORIZE THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO EXPEND FOR THE REGULAR EDUCATION PROGRAM
SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$609,918.70. ***Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Winthrop Carter, Seconded by Larry Hill. Yes 22 No 6 Motion Passes***

ARTICLE 3

TO SEE WHAT SUM THE TOWN OF ALEXANDER WILL AUTHORIZE THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO EXPEND FOR THE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM. SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$220,772.70. ***Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Larry Hill, Seconded by Patricia Foley. Yes 22 No 5 Motion Passes***

ARTICLE 4

TO SEE WHAT SUM THE TOWN OF ALEXANDER WILL AUTHORIZE THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO EXPEND FOR CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION. SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$0. ***Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Winthrop Carter, Seconded by Larry Hill. Yes 33 No 0 Motion Passes***

ARTICLE 5

TO SEE WHAT SUM THE TOWN OF ALEXANDER WILL AUTHORIZE THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO EXPEND FOR OTHER INSTRUCTION. SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$3,000.88. ***Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Winthrop Carter, Seconded by Larry Hill. Yes 21 No 5 Motion Passes***

ARTICLE 6

TO SEE WHAT SUM THE TOWN OF ALEXANDER WILL AUTHORIZE THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO EXPEND FOR STUDENT AND STAFF SUPPORT. SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$16,741.25. ***Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Patricia Foley, Seconded by Stephen Seavey. Yes 20 No 8 Motion Passes***

ARTICLE 7

TO SEE WHAT SUM THE TOWN OF ALEXANDER WILL AUTHORIZE THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO EXPEND FOR SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION. SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$72,477.25. ***Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Winthrop Carter, Seconded by Larry Hill. Yes 20 No 9 Motion Passes***

ARTICLE 8

TO SEE WHAT SUM THE TOWN OF ALEXANDER WILL AUTHORIZE THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO EXPEND FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION. SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$69,611.49. *Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Brittany Seavey, Seconded by Josie Wallace. Yes 19 No 9 Motion Passes*

ARTICLE 9

TO SEE WHAT SUM THE TOWN OF ALEXANDER WILL AUTHORIZE THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO EXPEND FOR TRANSPORTATION AND BUSES. SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$86,500.00. *Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Winthrop Carter, Seconded by Emma Hill. Yes 22 No 4 Motion Passes*

ARTICLE 10

TO SEE WHAT SUM THE TOWN OF ALEXANDER WILL AUTHORIZE THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO EXPEND FOR FACILITIES MAINTENANCE. SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$116,839.81. *Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Patricia Foley, Seconded by Amanda Posick. Yes 22 No 4 Motion Passes*

ARTICLE 11

TO SEE WHAT SUM THE TOWN OF ALEXANDER WILL AUTHORIZE THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO EXPEND FOR DEBT SERVICE AND OTHER COMMITMENTS. SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS \$0. *Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Winthrop Carter, Seconded by Larry Hill. Yes 33 No 0 Motion Passes*

ARTICLE 12

TO SEE WHAT SUM THE TOWN OF ALEXANDER WILL AUTHORIZE THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO EXPEND FOR ALL OTHER EXPENDITURES. SCHOOL COMMITTEE RECOMMEND \$56,993.04. *Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Stephen Seavey, Seconded by Kelly McDonough. Yes 20 No 5 Motion Passes*

ARTICLE 13

To see what sum the Town of ALEXANDER will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from K to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act (Recommend \$752,923.35) and to see what sum the town of ALEXANDER will raise as the Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from grade K to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statues, Title 20-A, section 15688. (Recommend \$411,346.17)

Explanation: The Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from grade K to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that the Town must raise in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.

Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Winthrop Carter, Seconded by Larry Hill. Yes 23 No 3 Motion Passes

ARTICLE 14

Shall the Town of ALEXANDER raise and appropriate \$328,521.18 in additional local funds which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$328,521.18 as required to fund the budget recommended by the ALEXANDER School Committee.

The School Committee recommends \$328,521.18 for the following reasons:

Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the town's local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from K to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the ALEXANDER budget for education programs.

Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Winthrop Carter, Seconded by Stephen Seavey. Yes 21 No 5 Motion Passes

ARTICLE 15

To see what sum the Town of Alexander will authorize the school committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024 for the School Nutrition Program with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of the school nutrition program. (Recommend \$80,993.04.)

Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Winthrop Carter, Seconded by Stephen Seavey. Yes 22 No 2 Motion Passes

ARTICLE 16

To see what sum the Town of Alexander will authorize the school committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024 from the Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from K to Grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services funding Act, non-state-funding school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy and other receipts for the support of schools. (Recommend \$1,252,855.11.)

Explanation: The total amount of the budget adopted by the school committee on June 13th, 2023 totals \$1,333,848.15 which is achieved when Articles 15 and 16 are combined.

Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Winthrop Carter, Seconded by Larry Hill. Yes 21 No 5 Motion Passes

ARTICLE 17

AUTHORIZES EXPENDITURES OF GRANTS AND OTHER RECEIPTS

In addition to amounts approved in the preceding articles, shall the School Board be authorized to expend such other sums as may be received from federal or state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school and other program purposes, provided that such grants, programs or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated School Board

Recommends a "YES" vote. ***Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Winthrop Carter, Seconded by Stephen Seavey. Yes 33 No 0 Motion Passes***

ARTICLE 18

AUTHORIZES USE OF ADDITIONAL STATE SUBSIDY

In the event that the Town of Alexander receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in its budget, shall the School Board be authorized to use all or part of the additional state subsidy to increase expenditures for school purposes in cost center categories approved by the School Board, increase the allocation of finances in a reserve fund approved by the School Board, and/or decrease the local cost share expectation, as defined in Title 20-A, section 15671-A(1)(B), for local property taxpayers for funding public education as approved by the School Board? School Board Recommends a "YES" vote. ***Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Winthrop Carter, Seconded by Stephen Seavey. Yes 33 No 0 Motion Passes***

TOWN OF ALEXANDER MUNICIPAL WARRANT ARTICLES

Article 19

To ask if there are any discussions of the Officers Reports. ***None noted, Motion to carry on made by Stephen Seavey, Seconded by Larry Hill. Yes 32 No 0. Motion Passes***

Article 20

To see if the Town of Alexander will vote to accept the following categories of State Funds during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023.

Municipal Revenue Sharing

Local Road Assistance

State Aid to Education (includes Federal pass-through funds and property relief)

Snowmobile Registration Money

Tree Growth Reimbursements

Veteran's Exemption Reimbursements

Homestead Exemption Reimbursements

Open Space Reimbursements

General Assistance Reimbursements

Civil Emergency Funds

State Grants or Other Funds

Motion made to accept the Funds listed by Kenneth Colson, Seconded by Brittany Seavey. Yes 32 No 0 Motion Passes

Article 21

To see if the Town of Alexander will vote to appropriate the total amount of reimbursed money received from the registration of snowmobiles to the Breakneck Mountain SnoRiders, Inc. club for the purpose of maintaining their snowmobile trails to be open for the use of the public at all times and to authorize the Municipal Officers to enter into an agreement with the club under such terms and conditions as the Municipal Officers may deem advisable, for that purpose. ***Motion made to accept as written by Kenneth Colson, Seconded by Emma Hill. Yes 32 No 0 Motion Passes***

Article 22

To see what sum the Town of Alexander will vote to raise and appropriate for Administration for Town Business. *Selectmen Recommend **\$95,000.** Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Stephen Seavey, Seconded by Dorothy Sullivan. Yes 26 No 0 Motion Passes*

Article 23

To see what sum the Town of Alexander will vote to raise and appropriate for Animal Welfare. *Selectmen Recommend **\$1,500.00.** Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Stephen Seavey, Seconded by Kenneth Colson. Yes 24 No 1 Motion Passes*

Article 24

To see what sum the Town of Alexander will vote to raise and appropriate for County Tax. *Selectmen Recommend **\$113,915.00.** Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Stephen Seavey, Seconded by Betty Wallace. Yes 23 No 2 Motion Passes*

Article 25

To see what sum the Town of Alexander will vote to raise and appropriate for the operational costs, stipends, and earnings of the Alexander Volunteer Fire Department.

Amount Requested:

Operational Costs; \$14,000.00

Stipends and Earnings; \$5,000.00

Fit Test; \$200.00

Total; **\$19,200.00**

Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Foster Carlow Jr., Seconded by Amanda Posick. Yes 26 No 0 Motion Passes

Article 26

To see if the Town of Alexander will vote to appropriate **\$14,000.00** from the Capital Investment Fund to the Alexander Volunteer Fire Department, to pay for the 1st Responder Rescue Vehicle. *Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Kenneth Colson, Seconded by Betty Wallace. Yes 28 No 2 Motion Passes*

Article 27

To see what sum the Town of Alexander will vote to raise and appropriate for General Assistance. *Selectmen Recommend **\$5,000.** Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Stephen Seavey, Seconded by Kenneth Colson. Yes 27 No 0 Motion Passes*

Article 28

To see what sum the Town of Alexander will vote to raise and appropriate For Solid Waste. *Selectmen Recommend **\$25,000.00.** Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Kenneth Colson, Seconded by Stephen Seavey. Yes 24 No 0 Motion Passes*

Article 29

To see if the Town of Alexander will vote to appropriate \$30,000.00 from the Unassigned Fund Balance into the Solid Waste Account. *Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Kenneth Colson, Seconded by Betty Wallace. Yes 23 No 1 Motion Passes*

Article 30

To see if the Town of Alexander will vote to appropriate \$135,000.00 of excise tax funds into the Road Account. *Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Betty Wallace, Seconded by Amanda Posick. Yes 26 No 0 Motion Passes*

Article 31

To see what sum the Town of Alexander will vote to raise and appropriate for the Road Account. *Selectmen Recommend \$75,000. Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Kenneth Colson, Seconded by Ronny Sealey. Yes 24 No 0 Motion Passes*

Article 32

To see if the Town of Alexander will vote to appropriate \$25,000.00 from the Unassigned Fund Balance into the Road Account. *Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Dorothy Sullivan, Seconded by Kenneth Colson. Yes 23 No 1 Motion Passes*

Article 33

To see what sum the Town of Alexander will vote to raise and appropriate for the Ambulance Service (DEEMS). *Selectmen Recommend \$12,072.00. Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Stephen Seavey, Seconded by Betty Wallace. Yes 21 No 1 Motion Passes*

Article 34

To see what sum the Town of Alexander will vote to raise and appropriate for the Forest Fire Fund. *Selectmen Recommend \$6,000.00. Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Dorothy Sullivan, Seconded by Amanda Posick. Yes 21 No 1 Motion Passes*

Article 35

To see if the Town of Alexander will vote to appropriate \$4,000.00 from the Unassigned Fund Balance into the Cemetery Account. *Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Dorothy Sullivan, Seconded by Emma Hill. Yes 24 No 0 Motion Passes*

Article 36

To see what sum the Town of Alexander will vote to raise and appropriate for the Capital Investment Account. *Selectmen Recommend \$1,000.00. Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Kenneth Colson, Seconded by Emma Hill. Yes 17 No 0 Motion Passes*

Article 37

To see what sum the Town of Alexander will vote to raise and appropriate for Downeast Community Partners. *Selectmen Recommend \$3476.00. Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Stephen Seavey, Seconded by Betty Wallace. Yes 20 No 0 Motion Passes*

Article 38

To see if the Town of Alexander will vote to appropriate \$3,300.00 from the Comprehensive Planning Fund Balance into the Building Maintenance Account. ***Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Kenneth Colson, Seconded by Stephen Seavey. Yes 21 No 0 Motion Passes***

Article 39

To see if the Town of Alexander will vote to allow interest to be charged on property taxes, which remain unpaid 120 days after the date of commitment at the maximum rate of interest that can be charged per M.R.S.A 505(4). ***Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Kenneth Colson, Seconded by Emma Hill. Yes 28 No 2 Motion Passes***

Article 40

To see if the Town of Alexander will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the town, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired to the town for non-payment of taxes there on in the following manner:

“After the lien on said property is expired the Selectmen shall advertise in the local Calais Advertiser and sell or convey by quit-claim deed to the highest bidder (but reserve the right to reject all bids) or the property may be kept and maintained by the town, should the Selectmen decide this to be more advantageous.”

Motion made to accept as written with recommended amount by Kenneth Colson, Seconded by Edward Perkins. Yes 28 No 2 Motion Passes

If all articles are approved the Municipal Budget (Not including school appropriations or County Tax) will be \$454,548.00

8:35 Motion to Adjourn made by Rhonda Oakes. All in favor, Motion Passed.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lesliann Howard Barnard.

