

TOWN OF GRAY
JUNE 13, 2023
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Cumberland, SS.

State of Maine

To Britt Barton, Town Clerk of the Town of Gray

Greetings:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Gray in said County and State, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet at Newbegin Center on Route 100/Lewiston Road in Gray, Maine on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 8:00 AM, then and there to act upon Article 1. The polls for voting for public officials and on Articles 2 through 14 shall open at 8:00 AM and close at 8:00 PM.

Article 1. To choose, by ballot, a Moderator to preside at said Annual Town Meeting.

To choose by secret ballot the following public officials:

1. Voting two members of the Town Council to serve a three-year term until June 2026.
2. Voting for two members of the MSAD #15 Board of Directors to serve three-year terms until June 2026.
3. Voting for one member of the MSAD #15 Board of Directors to serve a remaining two-year term until June 2025.
4. Voting for one member of the Gray Water District Trustee to serve a five-year term until June 2028.

To decide by secret ballot the following Budget Articles:

Article 2. Shall the Town vote to accept revenue and any Federal, State, and other sources of revenue and to appropriate the same to help fund the total Municipal Budget for FYE 2024 (detailed below) as recommended by the Town Council?

Article 3. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$12,741,976 to fund the FYE 2024 Municipal Budget, as recommended by the Town Council?

(Administration: Clerk, HR, Elections, GA, Finance, Code Enforcement, Assessing, Planning, Comm. & Info. Tech.)	\$2,020,643
Municipal Expenses	\$4,651,974

Library and Parks & Recreation	\$474,772	
Public Safety/Street Lights	\$1,813,722	
Public Works	\$3,324,946	
Council (legal), Boards and Committees	\$71,703	
Law Enforcement	\$325,191	
Community Service Agencies	\$59,025	
Total Budget FYE 2024		\$12,741,976

(Fiscal Note: If passed, **this article shall only be effective if the voters also pass Article 12** below to increase the so-called LD 1 property tax levy limit.)

Article 4. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate \$10,500 for Town Council compensation for FYE 2024, as recommended by the Town Council?

(Note: This appropriation must be voted on as a separate article, pursuant to Art. II, Sec. 6 of the Town Charter.)

Article 5. Shall the Town vote to appropriate \$3,116,356 from the Capital Reserve Fund for FYE 2024, for the following Capital Projects, as recommended by the Town Council?

Road Resurfacing	\$710,000	
Bridge Repair and Replacement	\$121,000	
Parks and Recreation	\$10,000	
Fire & Public Safety	\$0.00	
Public Works, Town Vehicles & Equipment	\$148,000	
Public Buildings	\$134,600	
Technology	\$162,642	
Library	\$18,000	
Debt Service	\$1,347,114	
Land Acquisition	\$50,000	
FY25 Capital Project Reserve	\$325,000	
Professional Services	\$90,000	
Total Capital Projects FYE 2024		\$3,116,356

Article 6. Shall the Town vote to appropriate from the TIF Revenue Fund and authorize the Town Council to expend TIF Revenue in an amount not to exceed \$626,753 for Gray Village and related road construction and

utilities planning, design, and engineering; stormwater/wastewater systems feasibility studies; and construction of sports fields to supplement Douglass Field, all in accordance with the TIF District Development Program documents, as recommended by the Town Council.

- Article 7. Shall the Town vote to accept and appropriate for their designated purposes all the various Town “enterprise account” funds (*e.g.*, nonmajor special revenue funds, recreation enterprise funds) for FYE 2024, as recommended by the Town Council?
- Article 8. Shall the Town vote to place funds received from the disposition of Town-owned personal property with a value of \$100,000 or less in the Capital Reserve Fund, and to appropriate the same for capital projects, as recommended by the Town Council?
- Article 9. Shall the Town vote to accept all funds generated by donations and fund-raising activities on behalf of the Town’s Recreation Department, the Dry Mills Schoolhouse, the Gray Public Library Association, the Gray Fire Rescue Association, and various Town Committees, and to appropriate the same for their intended purposes, as recommended by the Town Council?
- Article 10. Shall the Town vote to authorize the payment of tax abatements, including any interest due thereon, from the property tax overlay or, if necessary, from the unassigned fund balance, as recommended by the Town Council?
- Article 11. Shall the Town vote to authorize the Town Council to accept and appropriate funds on behalf of the Town, federal, state, and private funds received in the form of grants or gifts during the period from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, as recommended by the Town Council?
- Article 12. Shall the Town vote to increase the Town of Gray’s property tax levy limit established for FYE 2024 by State law to \$810,033 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, as recommended by the Town Council?
- (Approval of the Municipal Budget requires approval of this Article.)
- Article 13. Shall the Town vote to authorize the transfer of up to \$417,000 from the Unassigned General Fund Balance into the Land Acquisition Fund, provided that in no event shall the Unassigned General Fund Balance be

reduced as a result of such transfer to a level less than 2/12 of the Town's Net Assessment for Commitment; and authorize the transfer of up to an amount in excess of 3/12 of the Town's unassigned general fund balance at June 30, 2023 to the Capital Reserve Fund; and to appropriate up to said amounts from the Land Acquisition Fund and Capital Reserve Fund for costs associated with infrastructure improvements and acquisition of land necessary to achieve the open space and Gray Village development goals identified in the Town's Comprehensive Plan and the Gray Village Master Plan as the Town Council deems to be in the Town's best interest?

Article 14. Shall the Town vote to authorize the issuance of up to \$850,000 in general obligation bonds or notes of the Town to pay and/or reimburse the cost of improvements to the septic system that services multiple buildings on the Pennell Complex and the construction of additional public facilities and programmatic space for the Town Recreation Department and child-care program in the Manual Arts building, said bonds and notes hereby authorized and the proceeds thereof hereby appropriated for said purpose, with the details of such bonding (including provisions that the bonds may be prepaid or subject to call for redemption with or without premium) to be determined by the Town Council?

(Fiscal Note: Total estimated debt service of this bond issue is approximately \$983,152.91, of which principal is \$850,000 and estimated interest at 5.05% over five years is \$133,152.91.)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT—TOWN OF GRAY: The issuance of bonds by the Town of Gray (the "Town") is one of the ways in which the Town borrows money for certain purposes. The following summary of the bonded indebtedness of the Town of Gray is as of the date of this Special Town Meeting:

Bonds Now Outstanding and Unpaid	\$ 5,612,130
Interest to be Repaid on Outstanding Bonds	\$ 1,137,870
Total to be Repaid on Bonds Issued	\$ 6,750,000
Additional Bonds Authorized But Not Yet Issued	\$ 0
Total Additional Bonds to be Issued if Approved by Voters	\$ 850,000.00
Estimated of Potential New Interest	\$ 133,152.91
Total Additional Bonds to Be Issued and Estimated Interest if Approved by Voters	\$983,152.91

When money is borrowed by issuing bonds, the Town must repay not only the principal amount of the bonds but also interest on the bonds. The amount of interest to

be paid will vary depending upon the rate of interest and the years to maturity at the time of issue. The validity of the bonds and of the voters' ratification of the bonds may not be affected by any errors in the estimates made of the costs involved, including varying interest rates, the estimated cost of interest on the bond amount to be issued, and the total cost of principal and interest to be paid at maturity.

The Registrar of Voters is available to accept new registrations and corrections to the voter list at the Municipal Offices at the Henry Pennell Municipal Complex, 24 Main Street in Gray. The Municipal Offices are open Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 8:30AM - 4:00PM, and Thursdays 11AM – 6:30PM and Fridays, 8:30AM – 12:00 noon. Proof of residency and identity is required. A person who is not registered is not eligible to vote in the Annual Town Meeting.

Municipal Officers of Gray, Maine _____
Dated at Gray
This 18th day of April, 2023

A true copy.

Attest: _____
Judy Rand, Resident of Gray

Attest: _____
Deputy Town Clerk

The warrant and sample ballots shall be posted in the Town offices at least 7 days prior to the election.