

# **TOWN WARRANT**

## **STATE OF MAINE**

### **TOWN OF LIBERTY**

**To:** \_\_\_\_\_, Resident of the Town of Liberty, in the County of Waldo, and the 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 Liberty in said county and state, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the **Walker School**, in said Town, on **Saturday, the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.** in the forenoon, then and there to act on the following articles to wit:

Warren Steeves opened meeting at 9:15 a.m.

#### **ARTICLES:**

##### **ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICIALS**

1. To elect by written ballot a moderator to preside at said meeting.  
Kyle Wright nominated Andrew Worcester as Moderator. Jim Caldwell 2<sup>nd</sup> the nomination.  
Andrew Worcester elected by written ballot.

##### **Presentations:**

- Cindy Canavan was presented with a coin by John Kreuger for her work writing the town column.
- John Kreuger was presented with a plaque and coin by Jim Caldwell in recognition of his 23 years of service to the town.
- Warren Steeves was presented with a coin, gift card and plaque.

##### **Speakers:**

- Sue Pelletier spoke about upcoming Liberty Days (July 21 & 22) featuring arts and crafts, wagon rides, music, exhibits by Davistown Museum and Liberty Historical Society. Next Meeting at the Pelletiers.
  - Susan Longley thanked town for opportunity to serve as Judge of Probate for Waldo County for which she runs every 4 years. She spoke about court issues.
  - Mike Thibodeau, State Senator, thanks for representing Waldo County.
  - Lloyd Chase, running for Democratic candidate for State Legislature.
  - Sue Pelletier introduced the Ivan O. Davis Library website and calendar.
- A.W. established the ground rules of the meeting. Called for questions. None.

2. To establish town office hours as follows:

Monday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
Tuesday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Thursday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm  
Saturday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Dana Philippi made a motion to accept the Article as read. John Krueger seconded. Passed.

3. To fix compensation, from taxation, for the following positions:

| Position                             | Selectmen Recommendation | Budget Committee Recommendation |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Town Agent: | \$24,500.00              | \$24,500.00                     |
| First Selectman:                     | 6,500.00                 | 6,500.00                        |
| Second Selectman:                    | 6,250.00                 | 6,250.00                        |
| Third Selectman:                     | 6,000.00                 | 6,000.00                        |
| Treasurer:                           | 5,250.00                 | 5,250.00                        |
| Code Enforcement Officer:            | 5,250.00                 | 5,250.00                        |
| Fire Chief:                          | 5,250.00                 | 5,250.00                        |
| Road Commissioner:                   | 5,250.00                 | 5,250.00                        |
| Animal Control Officer:              | 1,800.00                 | 1,800.00                        |
| Registrar of Voters:                 | 850.00                   | 850.00                          |
| E911 Coordinator:                    | 525.00                   | 525.00                          |
| Plumbing Inspector:                  | 500.00                   | 500.00                          |
| Emergency Mngmnt. Dir.:              | <u>525.00</u>            | <u>525.00</u>                   |
| <b>Totals:</b>                       | <b>\$68,450.00</b>       | <b>\$68,450.00</b>              |

Dana Philippi made a motion to accept the Article as read. Sue Chapin seconded. Passed.

4. To elect the following one-year and three year positions:

- a. Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Town Agent; (one year)  
Dana Philippi nominated Gail Philippi, Shirley Bowden nominated Melanie Ripley. Nominations closed. Both nominees spoke. Vote by written ballot. Results: Gail Philippi 97, Melanie Ripley 7. Gail Philippi sworn in.
- b. Treasurer; (one year)  
Kyle Wright nominated Betsey Davis. 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Krueger. So moved, Dana Philippi. Betsey Davis elected.
- c. Fire Chief; (one year)  
Kyle Wright nominated Bill Gillespie. 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Krueger. Bill Gillespie elected.
- d. Road Commissioner (one year) and;  
Kyle Wright nominated Tammy Reynolds. 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Kruger. Tammy Reynolds elected.
- e. Town of Liberty Representative to the RSU3 School Board of Directors, (formally MSAD3,) to a three year term of office. (Kathy Eickenberg's term is currently up).  
John Krueger nominated Kathy Eickenberg. Danielle Blake seconded. Kathy Eickenberg elected. Kathy spoke about the upcoming RSU 3 Community Forum.

5. To elect a Second Selectman to serve on the Board of Selectmen, Board of Assessors and Overseers of the Poor for a three-year term (John Krueger's term is currently up).  
John Krueger nominated Steve Chapin. Dana Philippi seconded. Steve Chapin elected. Steve spoke.

6. Should a vacancy arise during the Town Meeting, to elect a First or Third Selectman to serve on the Board of Selectmen, Board of Assessors and Overseers of the Poor for any unexpired term(s).  
Dana Philippi made a motion to pass by. John Krueger seconded. Article passed by.

7. To elect a Budget Committee not to exceed 7 members to assist the Selectmen by meeting periodically with the Board of Selectmen and Treasurer to review financial accounts of the Town and assisting in budgeting town funds.  
**Recommendation:** **elect current board.**

John Krueger spoke about the budget committee and introduced the members: Henry Hall, Steve Jewett, Betsey Levine, Melanie Ripley, Joy Hadsell, Dave St. Clair, Dan McGovern. Krueger made a motion to accept the current Board. 2nd by Bud Steeves. Board will serve another year.

**TOWN OPERATION**

8. To see what sum of money the Town will raise, from taxation, for the following accounts:

| <b>Account</b>                   | <b>Selectmen's Recommendation</b> | <b>Budget Committee's Recommendation</b> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Administration:                  | \$35,000.00                       | \$35,000.00                              |
| Legal:                           | 3,500.00                          | 3,500.00                                 |
| Planning Board/Board of Appeals: | 3,000.00                          | 3,000.00                                 |
| TCSWMO:                          | 19,627.22                         | 19,627.22                                |
| Animal Control:                  | 1,600.00                          | 1,600.00                                 |
| Emergency Management:            | 250.00                            | 250.00                                   |
| Cemeteries:                      | 4,000.00                          | 4,000.00                                 |
| Poor Account:                    | 3,500.00                          | 3,500.00                                 |
| Street Lights:                   | 3,200.00                          | 3,200.00                                 |
| Insurance:                       | 15,000.00                         | 15,000.00                                |
| Payroll Expenses:                | 7,500.00                          | 7,000.00                                 |
| <b>Totals:</b>                   | <b>\$96,177.22</b>                | <b>\$95,677.22</b>                       |

Question from the floor: what is TCSWMO? Dan McGovern spoke about Tri-County Solid Waste.

John Krueger proposed to accept the Article as one. Dana Philippi 2<sup>nd</sup>. Pass for \$96,177.22.

9. **NEW COMMUNITY HALL ACCOUNT:** To see if the Town will carry over the \$3,470.00 balance for the New Committee Hall Account.

**Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommendation:** carry

Motion by John Krueger to accept the article as read. Kyle Wright 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Dave St Clair spoke of how the town has talked every year about this. He said at the last town meeting that he was going to build one and he did. He wants to donate it to the town-it should be ready before the next town meeting. It is available now for a small fee. He is not asking for any money.

Barb Rehmeier asked for the location (Pinnacle Rd.)

Sarason Leibler said that Dave did this with his own money. He proposes that money go from the Community Hall account to Dave.

Article passes.

10. **EMERGENCY FUND:** to see what sum of money, if any, the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appropriate, from surplus, to meet unanticipated expenses and emergencies that ) occur during calendar 2012. (The Town spent \$0.00 in 2011)

**Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommendation: \$10,000.00**

John Krueger proposes to accept the article as read. 2<sup>nd</sup> Dana Philippi.

Bob Bourassa asked if the balance had dropped to zero. Kyle Wright replied that it wasn't used. Article passes.

11. **MILEAGE:** To see what rate the Town will vote to authorize travel expenses for essential travel by any Town Official when such travel is on town business out of town (to be paid from the Administration Account), and for the Road Commissioner (to be paid from Road and Bridges Account) and Code Enforcement Officer (to be paid from the Planning Board Account) on town business in town.

**Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommendation: \$.405/mile**

Motion by John Krueger to accept as read. Dana Philippi seconded.

Bob Bourassa asked if the money is in a separate account. Kyle Wright replied that it comes out of Admin, R & B, or the PB budget. Article passes

12. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to transfer unexpended and unneeded funds, from certain departments to Surplus and to transfer Surplus funds to departments requiring the same for continuation of its services, and to expend un-appropriated funds to the extent necessary to carry on town operations during the interval following the end of the current fiscal year, until appropriations are made at the Annual Town Meeting in March 2013.

John Krueger made a motion to accept as read; Joy Hadsell seconded. Sarason Liebler asked if there are any unused funds or is this just a catch-all. Bob Bourassa asked if this is open-ended and should there be an upper limit. John Krueger replied that we have expenses between Jan. and March that we haven't voted on yet. This was the auditors' recommendation. Sarason Liebler said we don't want to change this article: we don't want to have to call a town meeting every two weeks. This is a responsibility of the Selectmen. Kyle Wright stated that this has been on every warrant. Luther Thornton said during the microburst, money was used for funds needed immediately. Article passes.

### HIGHWAYS

13. To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation for the Roads and Bridges account, to be used for the maintenance, paving, snow plowing, and sand/salt of contracted town roads and to be used as Town matching funds for any FEMA/MEMA grants received in 2012.

| Account          | Selectmen's Recommendation | Budget Committee's Recommendation |
|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| RDB maintenance: | \$60,000.00                | \$60,000.00                       |
| Paving:          | 60,000.00                  | 60,000.00                         |
| Salt and Sand:   | 28,000.00                  | 28,000.00                         |
| <b>Totals:</b>   | <b>\$148,000.00</b>        | <b>\$148,000.00</b>               |

Kyle Wright made a motion to accept the article as read; Dana Philippi seconded. Article passed in the amount of \$148,000

14. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation, \$10,000.00, to be used to assure that access to Lake St. George dam mechanism, is safely accessible and enclosed to prevent unauthorized access to the dam mechanism.

John Krueger made a motion to accept the article as read; Dan McGovern seconded. Bob Bourassa asked if we had heard from the state (about rebuilding the roadway over the dam). Kyle Wright replied there will be a second public hearing sometime in April. Liebler said the State wants no part of it. There should be money available so the Town can move quickly should the

dam need repair. Tammy (Reynolds) gets no money for her significant work on the dam which is dangerous and needs attention regularly. People should be trained to take over. Article passes.

15. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate from taxation \$153,900.00 for the snowplowing contract.

Motion by John Krueger to accept the article as read; Dana Philippi seconded. Article passes.

**LIBERTY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

16. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, to operate the Liberty Volunteer Fire Department and to pay Fire Department volunteer firefighters while on the job.

| Account          | Selectmen's Recommendation | Budget Committee's Recommendation |
|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Operations:      | \$42,000.00                | \$42,000.00                       |
| Compensation:    | 15,000.00                  | 15,000.00                         |
| Capital Reserve: | 7,500.00                   | 7,500.00                          |
| <b>Totals:</b>   | <b>\$64,500.00</b>         | <b>\$64,500.00</b>                |

John Krueger made a motion to accept the Selectmen's recommendation; Joy Hadsell seconded. Article passes.

17. To see if the Town will carry over the \$7,500.00 balance for the LVFD Capital Reserve account. John Krueger made a motion to accept the article as read; Joy Hadsell seconded. Article passes.

**MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE**

18. Shall an ordinance entitled "The Town of Liberty Property Assessed Clean Energy Ordinance be enacted? (Copies of the proposed ordinance are available from the Office of the Town Clerk, and copies will be available at the Annual Town Meeting.)

**Selectmen Recommendation: Town Decides**

Elise Brown made a motion to accept the article as read; John Krueger seconded. Elise Brown spoke about PACE. Maine is grappling with energy issues, 80% of homes use oil. This is a \$20 million block grant by the federal government to provide residents with the ability to receive loans for the purpose of energy upgrades. The Town needs to pass the Ordinance, then pass over to the Agency to administer. 137 municipalities have taken part so far. Sarason Libler asked who pays? Brown replied that it's the Agency and the homeowner gets the loan. Steve Chapin said that it is a financing option: the loan is given with a lower interest rate than other home equity loans.. Robert Brown agreed and said further that it is unique in that the payback is structured so that the payments are lower than the savings achieved. Kyle Wright explained the town's responsibility would be to provide administrative assistance to the residents applying for the loan. Steve Chapin said this is not an assessment. Judy Fuller asked why do we need an Ordinance? Chapin said the federal government decided to involve municipalities. The state had to pass a law; Maine has done it differently than any other state. Fuller asked How does EM get paid? Chapin said as part of a grant they're allocated money to manage it—the 5% will pay for the program and continue it. Betsy Davis asked if we don't vote on it then we can't do it? Chapin replied that we have to vote yes on the two parts: the contract and the Ordinance. If we vote it down then it's one less option. Dottie Harrison reminded everyone that it is an option for residents in need. Bud Steeves objected to the Ordinance: said it's yet another government

program that sounds good and doesn't always end up that way. Article V, section C, "... the municipality must assist and cooperate with the trust" is wide open and vague wording on the town's involvement. Jim Caldwell said that it is an opportunity for the homeowner. John Kruger said there is no obligation to the town aside from requests from realtors. Mariah Williams made a motion to call it to a vote. Ordinance passes.

19. Shall the Town of Liberty, Maine enter into a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Program Agreement with the Efficiency Maine Trust and authorize the Board of Selectmen to sign the same? (Must be voted on if the preceding article is adopted)

John Krueger made a motion to accept the article as read; Elise Brown seconded. Bob Bourassa said that it sounds anti-business. Article passes.

### RESOLUTION

20. Shall a Resolution entitled "Resolution to Abolish Corporate Personhood and Restore Democracy" be enacted? (Copies of the proposed resolution are available from the Office of the Town Clerk, and copies will be available at the Annual Town Meeting)

Mariah Williams made a motion to accept the article as read; Missy Hatch seconded. Williams said that Diane Messer had drafted the resolution (provided on handout) many cities have passed such resolutions. When 2/3 of the states pass this it should pass to an amendment in Article 5 of the Constitution. Supreme Court ruled that corporations are Persons, 5-4. Liebler objected on point of order. Andrew Worcester said the motion is to stick to the facts. Mariah Williams said the spirit of this is not anti-corporate. The founding fathers were wary of corporations. Willy Wilmouth called for a vote. Motion made for a written ballot: failed 20-32. Article passes, 36-23.

### PARKS & RECREATION

21. **RECREATION ACCOUNT:**

A. To see if the Town will accept reimbursements from the Town of Montville for maintenance of the recreation area (**Estimate: \$1,500.00**). Montville has been formally requested to raise \$1,500.00 for this account.

Krueger made a motion to AAR; Barb Rehmeier seconded. Article passes.

B. To see if the Town will accept funds from the State of Maine (income from the State Park, of approximately **\$1,850**), and vote to raise **\$3,000** from taxation, for the recreation account.

**Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommendation: pass**

Krueger made a motion to AAR; Barb Rehmeier seconded. Article passes.

C. To see if the Town will carry forward **\$355.92** from the Basketball Forever Account.

Krueger made a motion to AAR; Barb Rehmeier seconded. Article passes.

D. To see if the funds raised from 2011 snowmobile registrations will be provided to the Palermo Snowmobile Club (**estimate: \$400.00**).

Wright made a motion to AAR; Barb Rehmeier seconded. Article passes.

22. **RECREATION REQUESTS:** To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, for the following recreation requests. Montville has been formally requested to raise \$225.00 for swim lessons:

| <b>Sport Account</b>            | <b>Selectmen's Recommendation</b> | <b>Budget Committee's Recommendation</b> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Swimming Classes                | \$ 450.00                         | \$ 450.00                                |
| Walker Wildcats girls softball  | 200.00                            | 200.00                                   |
| Liberty/Montville Little League | 400.00                            | 400.00                                   |
| Liberty Farm Teams              | 250.00                            | 250.00                                   |
| Liberty T-ball Teams            | 150.00                            | 150.00                                   |
| Waldo County Y.M.C.A.           | 250.00                            | 250.00                                   |
| Liberty basketball Teams        | 100.00                            | 100.00                                   |
| Eleven Towns Youth Hockey       | 200.00                            | 200.00                                   |
| <b>Totals:</b>                  | <b>\$ 2,000.00</b>                | <b>\$ 2,000.00</b>                       |

Motion by John Krueger to accept the article as read for the sum of \$2,000; Betsey Levine seconded. Jim Butler asked for additional funds for the Liberty basketball teams. All current money goes for league fees. Butler Requested \$300 total for the team. Jim Butler made a motion to amend the article to add \$200 for a total of \$2, 200; Joy Hadsell seconded. Article passes

### INDEPENDENT SERVICES

23. **“JAWS”:** To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, for the Tri-Town Rescue “Jaws” team.

**Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommendation: \$500.00**

Motion by John Krueger to accept the article as read; Dana Philippi seconded. Article passes.

24. **AMBULANCE:**

A. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, **\$1,000.00** to be paid to the Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Service as a retainer fee.

Motion by Kyle Wright to accept the article as read; Sue Chapin seconded. Article passes.

B. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, **\$3,000.00** to be paid to the Liberty Volunteer Ambulance Service to be used to help with the cost of training ambulance personnel.

**Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommendation: \$4,000.00**

Motion by Dana Philippi to accept the article as read; John Krueger seconded. Steve Chapin spoke of the non-profit status of the ambulance with no monetary support from the town. Also that there is a crisis around community ambulance services—we need more people from the community to volunteer. Emergency Management funds are down. Bob Bourassa asked if money would attract more people. Chapin said they will pay people a stipend, but he doesn't know if it will make a difference. Article passes.

25. **IVAN O. DAVIS LIBRARY:** To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, **\$4,500.00** to help support the Ivan O. Davis Liberty Library.  
**Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommendation: \$4,500.00**  
*Motion by Barb Rehmeyer to accept the article as read; John Krueger seconded. Article passes.*
26. **WALKER-OVERLOCK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP:** To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, **\$1,000.00** for the WOMS account.  
**Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommendation: \$1,000.00**  
*Motion by John Krueger to accept the article as read; Barb Rehmeyer seconded. Article passes.*
27. **SOCIAL REQUESTS:** To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, for the following:

| ACCOUNT   | REQUEST            | RECOMMEND         |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|
| AMVETS  | \$1,000.00         | \$1,000.00        |
| Liberty Historical Society,<br>Post Office Museum | 250.00             | 250.00            |
| Citizen Association of Liberty<br>Lakes (CALL)    | 150.00             | 150.00            |
| New Hope For Women                                | 750.00             | 250.00            |
| Waldo CAP   | 4,956.00           | 4,500.00          |
| Spectrum Generations                              | 697.00             | 500.00            |
| Kno-Wal-Lin                                       | 939.00             | 400.00            |
| Red Cross   | 973.00             | 400.00            |
| Belfast Area Child Care<br>Services               | 500.00             | 250.00            |
| Hospice Vol./ Waldo County                        | 500.00             | 100.00            |
| Mid-Coast Maine<br>Community Action (WIC)         | 500.00             | 400.00            |
| Kennebec Behavioral Health                        | 500.00             | 100.00            |
| Davistown Community<br>Farmshare                  | 500.00             | 500.00            |
| Broadreach  | 300.00             | 300.00            |
| Habitat for Humanity                              | 100.00             | 100.00            |
| Sexual Assault Crisis &<br>Support Center         | 100.00             | 100.00            |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                                     | <b>\$12,715.00</b> | <b>\$9,300.00</b> |

*John Krueger made a motion to accept the Budget Committee's recommendation of \$9300. Mariah Williams made a motion to move \$200 from the Red Cross to Kno-Wal-Lin; Judy Fuller seconded. John Krueger stated he would rather add to Kno-Wal-Lin, not subtract from the Red Cross—they've been making considerable efforts to improve. Jane Bourassa said she agreed with Krueger added that they are an important safety net. Bill Gillespie said that he has worked with the Red Cross over the years and they have a good relationship with the town. They do CPR trainings for free. Williams made a motion to withdraw the amendment; Judy Fuller seconded. Amendment withdrawn. Williams made a motion to amend the article and raise the amount for Kno-Wal -Lin from \$400 to \$600; Ben Kahn seconded. Bob Bourassa asked what the thought process was in making the decision. Wright said that the town gets requests from social services agencies which the budget committee and the selectmen review. Bourassa said the amounts should be left alone. Gail Philippi said that the budget committee meetings are open to the public and people should attend. Amendment failed. \$9300 passed as recommended.*

28. **ENVIRONMENTAL FUND:** Shall the Town carry over \$3,972.99 for the environmental fund.



John Krueger made a motion to accept the article as read; Barb Rehmeier seconded. Article passed.

**DEBT SERVICE**

29. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate, from taxation, for the following loans:

| Account           | Selectmen's<br>Recommendation | Budget Committee<br>Recommendation |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Stevens Pond Dam: | \$4,311.36                    | \$4,311.36                         |
| Valley Bridge:    | 10,003.42                     | 10,003.42                          |
| TAN:              | <u>3,000.00</u>               | *                                  |
| <b>Total</b>      | <b>\$17,314.78</b>            | <b>\$14,314.78</b>                 |

**\*Select Board's decision from TAN (Tax Anticipation Note) applicants, the prevailing interest rate, and the amount decided for the TAN. Estimate only.**

John Krueger made a motion to accept the selectmen's recommendation of \$17,314.78; Joy Hadsell seconded. Barb Rehmeier asked what is the \$300 difference. Kyle Wright replied that the TAN is a note the town took out to pay the school district, it will be done again in May and we don't know how much we'll need or the interest rate. John Krueger said it makes no sense that the budget committee disapproved—we have to do it. Article passed.

**PROPERTY TAXES**

30. To see if the Town will vote to have all taxes due and payable immediately upon commitment to the Tax Collector and:

A. To see if the Town will determine that taxes not paid 30 days after commitment are considered delinquent.

B. To see what sum of interest the Town will vote to charge on all liens and delinquent taxes.

**Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommendation: 5%**  
**[The maximum rate of interest that may be charged: 7%]**

C. To see if the Town will vote that a taxpayer who pays an amount in excess of that finally assessed shall be repaid the amount of the overpayment plus interest from date of the overpayment at an annual rate set 4% below that established in the preceding Article.

**Selectmen and Budget Committee Recommendation: 1%**

D. To see if the Town will vote to authorize any action necessary, by the Selectmen and Tax Collector, to collect any delinquent taxes outstanding for prior years; and to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired for non-payment of taxes thereon, on such terms as deemed advisable, by the Selectmen and the State, including publishing in local papers, including the right to accept or reject any and all bids, and if the bid process is used, authorize execution of Quit-Claim deeds for such property sold.

E. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes for the year 2012 not yet due or committed.

John Krueger made a motion to accept the article as read with the Selectmen's and Budget committees recommendations of 5% and 1%; Dan McGovern seconded. HL made a motion to amend A. to 45 days; Dot Harrison seconded. John Krueger said that it is in our best interest to collect the money as soon as possible. Dot Harrison said in the past there was a discount to get

the money in earlier. Krueger said that when the discount was taken away, people still paid early. Bob Bourassa said that people know they are going to get a bill and should be prepared. The amendment fails. The article passed as written.

31. To see if the Town of Liberty will accept and carry over any Education Block Grants and State Revenue Sharing funds to be used to reduce Liberty Taxes and to see what sum the Town will vote to appropriate from the following General Fund revenue sources to be used toward 2012 budget appropriations thereby decreasing the amount required to be raised by property taxation:

**Selectmen Recommendation:**

|                                |                        |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>State Revenue Sharing:</b>  | <b>42,000.00</b>       |
| <b>MDOT Block Grant Funds:</b> | <b>35,000.00</b>       |
| <b>Excise Taxes:</b>           | <b>120,000.00</b>      |
| <b>Surplus:</b>                | <b>20,000.00</b>       |
| <b>State Agent Fees:</b>       | <b><u>5,500.00</u></b> |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>242,500.00</b>      |

Joy Hadsell made a motion to accept the article as read; Dana Philippi seconded. Kathy Eikenberg suggested putting more into surplus as we go forward. We're still behind on paying Liberty's portion of the RSU 3 school budget. Judy Fuller said that we don't like to build up surplus because it doesn't earn much interest. She suggested 2 bills per year. Article passed as written in the amount of \$242,500.

32. To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Liberty by State law 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. (Vote must be by written ballot.)

John Krueger made a motion to accept the article as read; Barbara Rehmeyer seconded. Kathy Eikenberg asked if we were making assumptions about the school budget. John Krueger said we've minimized, we need to increase value (from new buildings), though there is not a lot happening now. We should be on the safe side and pass it. LD 1 is an effort by the Legislature to keep towns from raising more than the local appropriations—it's based on new construction. Kathy Eikenberg stated that an increase of \$72,000 for Liberty is coming. A written ballot was taken. The article passed 35 yes to 8 no.

John Krueger said that SWLA was left out of the town report. Anna Feidler of the Sheepscot Wellspring Land Alliance reminded residents that their office is located at 44 Main St.

Motion by John Krueger to adjourn the meeting; Joy Hadsell seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:11 PM.

Minutes taken by Gail H. Philippi, Liberty Town Clerk/Tax Collector; Danielle Blake, Deputy Clerk; Jamie Davis, Liberty resident.