

TOWN OF SOUTH BRISTOL
WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
2026

LINCOLN COUNTY

STATE OF MAINE

To Bruce Farrin, Jr., a citizen of South Bristol in the County of Lincoln and the State of Maine.

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of South Bristol, in said county qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Town Office in said town, on **Monday, 9th** of March A.D. 2026, from 12:45 o'clock until 7:00 pm, then and there **to act on articles numbered 1 and 2.**

And to notify and warn the voters to meet in the elementary school in said town on **Tuesday the March 10th** A.D. 2026, at seven o'clock in the evening, then and there **to act on articles 3 through 48** all of said articles be set out below to wit:

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

Article 2. To select the necessary Town Officers by secret ballot. Polls for voting on this article will open at one o'clock in the afternoon and will close at seven o'clock p.m.

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to carry forward for town government on each individual account, the year balances as reflected in the audit report.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to elect Road Commissioners or authorize the Select Board to act as Road Commissioners.

Article 5. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to continue to review the overall street lighting installation with the authority to relocate, eliminate or install, to make the installation responsive to current needs.

Article 6. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to sell and dispose of any tax titles held by the Town on such terms as they deem advisable and to execute quit-claim deeds for such property, however stipulating that any properties not redeemed by the last owner or immediate heirs will be offered for disposal through public bid.

Article 7. To see if the Town will authorize an interest rate of 4% annually, after November 30, on all unpaid taxes, and for the Tax Collector to accept any prepayments.

Article 8. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to transfer State Block Grant Funds to the Highway Account.

Article 9. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to sell surplus town supplies by public bid.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to accept from the South Bristol Volunteer Fire Dept. gifts of money and certain items of equipment to be used for the benefit of the Town and the South Bristol Volunteer Fire Dept.

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to accept and expend on behalf of the town, Federal and or State funds which may be received in the form of grants during 2026.

Article 12. To ask if the Town will nominate and choose two members to the Budget Committee. One board member for a 2-year term and one board member for a 5-year term.

Article 13. To ask if the Town will vote to approve an amendment to the South Bristol Coastal Waters and Harbor Ordinance which is titled, "Proposed Amendments to Regulate Coastal Waters Aquaculture Operations", reviewed at two public forums.

Article 14. To ask if the Town will vote to accept the updated Shellfish Ordinance reviewed at two public forum meetings and to repeal the prior Shellfish Ordinance of 2010.

Article 15: To ask if the town will vote to allow the Select Board to accept a land donation of 1.19 acres from James and Deborah Warner located on Rutherford Island.

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12th of the budgeted amount of each category of the 2026 annual budget during the period from January 1, 2027, to the annual Town Meeting.

Article 17. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to appropriate from the Stratton Earnings & Dividend Account the sum of \$500,000 to
REDUCE THE TAX COMMITMENT.

Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: \$500,000

Article 18. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to appropriate from the Stratton Earnings & Dividend Account the sum of \$100,000 for
HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE for 2026.

Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: \$100,000

Article 19. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to appropriate from the Stratton Earnings & Dividend Account the sum of \$199,754 for
CLC AMBULANCE SERVICES.

Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: \$199,754

Article 20. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to agree to amended wording in the CLC Joint Ambulance Services Agreement, approved on 9/15/2022, to more clearly define

the quasi-municipal organization structure. This will allow for potential cost savings and expanded employee benefits.

Select Board Recommends: *Approval*

Article 21. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to transfer from surplus the sum of \$217,000 for **HEALTH AND SANITATION.**

Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: **\$217,000**

Article 22. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to transfer from surplus the sum of \$278,022 for **WINTER ROADS.**

Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: **\$ 278,022**

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise/appropriate the sum of \$160,000 to pay for the **REVALUATION OF TOWN PROPERTY.**

Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: **\$160,000**

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise/appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to meet **UNANTICIPATED EXPENSES.**

Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: **\$20,000**

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise/appropriate funds to pay for a discount of 2% on taxes paid within 30 days of invoice.

Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: **\$64,000**

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise/appropriate the sum of \$16,650 for **CODE ENFORCEMENT AND PLANNING BOARD.**

Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: **\$16,650**

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise/appropriate the sum \$181,100 for **ADMINISTRATION.**

Town Officers and Salaries	\$110,000
Town Bldg. & Equip. Maintenance	20,000
Town Expense	51,100

Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: **\$ 181,100**

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise/appropriate the sum \$188,821 FOR **PROTECTION.**

Fire Department Payroll	50,000
Fire Equipment & Supplies	5,000
Fire Vehicle Maintenance	20,000
Fire House Building Maintenance	20,000
Fire House Utilities	6,000
Fire Department Equipment	10,000
Fire Department Miscellaneous	3,000
Town Lights & Power	10,000

Insurance	59,281
Health Officer	500
Emergency Management Director	4,040
Animal Control	1,000
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<i>Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends:</i>	\$188,821

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to raise/appropriate the sum of \$44,214 for **DONATIONS.**

Walpole Chapel	5,000
Senior Generations	1,700
ME Public Broadcasting	150
LifeFlight	564
Central Lincoln Co. YMCA	7,500
Healthy Kids	2,000
New Hope for Women	1,100
SB Historical Society	500
American Legion	350
Rutherford Library	10,000
Coastal Kids	1,500
SB Little League	1,000
Eldercare	7,500
Mid-coast Comm. Action	350
CHIP	3,240
Animal Shelter	1,750
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<i>Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends:</i>	\$ 44,214

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to raise/appropriate the sum of \$ 59,100 for **UNCLASSIFIED.**

General Assistance	4,000
Recreation	5,000
Town Flags	600
Town Mowing	32,000
Abatements	2,000
FICA, Medicare, PFML	15,500
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<i>Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends:</i>	\$ 59,100

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to raise/appropriate the sum of \$12,417 for **ADULT EDUCATION**; with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of the adult education program.

Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: **\$ 12,417**

**SCHOOL BUDGET ARTICLES TO APPROPRIATE MONIES FOR THE
FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026
ARTICLES PURSUANT TO 20-A M.R.S.A. SECTION 1485**

Article 32. To see if the Town will appropriate up to \$39,588.50 from surplus funds for expenses needed before July 1, 2026, for the Johns Bay Coastal Alliance Education Service Center start up. All invoices will be approved by the South Bristol town office before being paid.

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends up to: \$ 39,588.50

**SCHOOL BUDGET ARTICLES TO APPROPRIATE MONIES FOR THE
FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
ARTICLES PURSUANT TO 20-A M.R.S.A. SECTION 1485**

Article 33. To see what sum the Town will be authorized to expend for Regular Instruction.

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 1,316,663.90

Article 34. To see what sum the Town will be authorized to expend for Special Education.

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 594,062.84

Article 35. To see what sum the Town will be authorized to expend for Career and Technical Education.

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 50.00

Article 36. To see what sum the Town will be authorized to expend for Other Instruction.

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 140,550.00

Article 37. To see what sum the Town will be authorized to expend for Student and Staff Support.

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 335,791.60

Article 38. To see what sum the Town will be authorized to expend for System Administration.

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 225,338.96

Article 39. To see what sum the Town will be authorized to expend for School Administration.

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 247,952.76

Article 40. To see what sum the Town will be authorized to expend for Transportation and Buses.

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 225,912.70

Article 41. To see what sum the Town will be authorized to expend for Facilities Maintenance.

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 279,496.01

Article 42. To see what sum the Town will be authorized to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments.

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: **\$ 0.00**

Article 43. To see what sum the Town will be authorized to expend for All Other Expenditures.

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: **\$ 35,500.00**

ARTICLES PURSUANT TO 20-A M.R.S.A. Section 15690

School Administrative Unit Contribution to Total Cost of Funding Public Education from Kindergarten to Grade 12 (as required by Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, §15690(1 A-B)):

Article 44. Shall the Town appropriate **\$1,380,475.33** for the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and shall the Town raise \$ 1,268,185.06 as the Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: **\$ 1,268,185.06**
(amount raised)

Explanation: The Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten 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 a municipality must raise in order to receive the full amount of State dollars.

(To "appropriate" means to devote (money or assets) to a special purpose; 'to allow to be spent'. To "raise" means that this portion of the appropriation will be satisfied by local tax dollars. The difference between the "appropriate: amount and the "raise" amount is the amount of the state subsidy.)

Article 45. *(Written ballot required, per Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, §15690 (3 A-B).)* Shall the Town raise and appropriate **\$1,813,440.46** in additional local funds, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model, to fund the budget recommended by the School Committee?

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: **\$1,813,440.46**

Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised over and above the Town's required contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, and local amounts raised for delivery of special education services, intervention services for students needing additional assistance, and to provide classroom instruction as deemed appropriate by the administration, the South Bristol School Board and the residents of the town so as to help achieve the Town budget for educational programs.

School Budget Funding Explanation

Article #41 Required Local (EPS) Raise Amount:	\$ 1,268,185.06
Article #42 Additional Local (EPS) Raise Amount:	<u>\$ 1,813,440.46</u>
Total Local Funds Raised:	\$ 3,081,625.52

Fund Balance Forward:	\$ 14,314.98
Private Donations	\$ 140,550.00
Transfer from Special Services Reserve	\$ 50,000.00
State Subsidy:	<u>\$ 114,828.27</u>
Total School Budget Request:	\$ 3,401,318.77

Total Budget Article (as required by Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, §15690 (4A)) : *(A school administrative unit must include a summary article indicating the total annual budget for funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 in the school administrative unit. The amount recommended must be the gross budget of the school system. This article does not provide money unless the other articles are approved.)*

Article 46. To see what sum the Town will authorize the school committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 from the school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded 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.

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: \$ 3,401,318.77

Article 47. In addition to amounts approved in the preceding articles, shall the School Committee be authorized to expend such sums as may be received from federal or state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school purposes, provided that such grants, programs, or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated?

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: Approval

Article 48. Shall the Town authorize the South Bristol School Committee to transfer, in addition to the statutorily allowed 5%, an additional 5% (for a total of 10%) of funds between budget cost centers as necessary in the best interest of the South Bristol School Department, provided that such transfers will not increase the total budget of the South Bristol School Department?

School Board, Select Board & Budget Committee Recommends: Approval