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Solon Maine Annual Town Meeting Warrant 2008

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2008 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
WARRANT FOR MARCH 1, 2008 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

To Rance Pooler, a resident of the Town of Solon in the County of Somerset:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required by law to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Solon, qualified to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Solon Elementary School on the 1st day of March AD 2008 at eight o'clock in the forenoon, then and there, in accordance with the Revised Statutes of the State of Maine 1964, Title 30, Paragraph 2051 and seq. or as amended, to elect a moderator, and to transact all other business as enumerated in this Warrant.

For the election of officers, the polls will open immediately after the election of a Moderator, and will remain open until 12:15 PM. Absentee ballots will be opened at 10:00 AM on March 1, 2008 by the Moderator. The transaction of other business as enumerated will begin at 1:30 PM.

Article 1: To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Jim Quimby nominated Philip Roy, Rance Pooler seconded. Philip Roy elected Moderator

Article 2: To open polls for election of officers.

165 citizens voted at the polls, 61 attended the Town Meeting

Nominated Candidates:

Selectman, three-year term: Daniel Keegan – 62 votes Sarah Davis – 101 votes

Road Commissioner: Ronald Giguere – 138 votes

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Barbara Maden – 161 votes

Treasurer: Judith Robertson – 157 votes

MSAD # 74 School Board Director, one-year term: Andrew Davis – 145 votes

Article 3: To see if the town will vote to take the following amounts from the 2007 Surplus for overage in these accounts: Winter Roads: \$4,631.07; Workers Compensation Insurance: \$27.60; Social Security & Medicare: \$578.44; and Town Office Security System: \$13.40.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Mike Golden motioned to accept the recommendations. Mike Sackett seconded. Motion passed.

Article 4: To see if the town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of \$350,289.79, established for the town of Solon by State law, in the event the municipal budget approved under the following articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit. Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Mike Golden motioned to accept the recommendations. Andy Davis seconded. Motion passed by written ballot 42 - 12.

Article 5: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

Andy Davis motioned to accept the recommendations in sub articles 1 - 19. Mike Golden seconded. Motion passed.

1. TOWN CHARGES

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$13,000 plus fees

2. TOWN OFFICE/WATER

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$350

3. TOWN OFFICE/ELECTRICITY

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,200

4. TOWN OFFICE/MAINTENANCE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,500

5. TOWN OFFICE/TELEPHONE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,000

6. TOWN OFFICE/SECURITY SYSTEM

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$275

7. SCHOOLS, BOOKS & DUES

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$3,500

8. MUNICIPAL OFFICERS SALARIES

Selectmen & Budget Committee recommend \$24,500 as follows:

Selectmen \$8,000.00 each

Chair additional \$500.00

9. TAX COLLECTOR/TOWN CLERK

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$21,500

10. TREASURER

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,400

11. DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR/CLERK

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,000

12. CODE ENFORCEMENT & PLUMBING INSPECTOR

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,500 plus fees.

13. ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,500 plus fees.

14. ELECTIONS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,500.00

15. REGISTER OF VOTERS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,500.00

16. COMPUTER FEES

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,200

17. MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS MAINTENANCE RESERVE ACCOUNT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,000

18. MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS HEAT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$12,000

19. TOWN OFFICE SECURITY SYSTEM UPGRADE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,500

Article 6: To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for PROTECTION.

Andy Davis motioned to accept the recommendations in sub articles 1 – 9. Jim Hills seconded. Motion passed.

1. STREET LIGHTS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$9,000

2. HYDRANT RENTAL

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$18,965.75

3. FIRE CHIEF

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,000

4. FIRE DEPARTMENT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$20,000 plus reimbursements

5. FIRE TRUCK RESERVE ACCOUNT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$3,000

6. WORKER COMPENSATION INSURANCE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$7,400

7. UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,842

8. INSURANCE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$20,000

9. SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$14,000

Article 7: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for the HEALTH AND SANITATION.

Andy Davis motioned to accept the recommendations in sub articles 1 - 2. Mike Golden seconded. Motion passed.

1. TRANSFER STATION

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$66,000 plus fees & income

2. TRANSFER STATION TRUCK AND EQUIPMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$3,000

Article 8: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for PUBLIC WORKS.

Andy Davis motioned to accept the recommendations in sub articles 1 - 11. Mike Golden seconded. Motion passed.

1. WINTER ROADS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$70,000

2. SUMMER ROADS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$60,000

3. MAINTENANCE OF HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$7,000

4. CULVERTS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,000

5. CALCIUM CHLORIDE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,500

6. COLD PATCH

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$500

7. HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$25,000.00

8. GRAVEL

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$11,200.00

9. EXCAVATOR RENTAL

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,000.00

10. GARAGE ROOF REPAIR

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$14,000

11. MEETING HOUSE ROAD PAVING RESERVE ACCOUNT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$40,000

Article 9: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for SOCIAL SERVICES.

Andy Davis motioned to accept the recommendations in sub articles 1 – 11. Barbara Keegan seconded. Andy Davis motioned to amend sub article 7 to \$1,231.25. Sarah Davis seconded. Amendment passed. Motion passed.

1. GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$19,095

2. BINGHAM AREA SENIOR CITIZENS (requested \$300)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$300

3. KVCAP BUS SERVICE (requested \$400)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$400

4. FAMILY VIOLENCE PROJECT (requested \$885)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$400

5. HOSPICE (requested \$500)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$500

6. SENIOR SPECTRUM (requested \$760)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$760

7. KENNEBEC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (requested \$1,231.25)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$893

8. SOLON FOOD CUPBOARD (requested \$2,000)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,000 with the money given to the Solon Corner Market to be used at the discretion of the Solon Food Cupboard.

9. AMERICAN RED CROSS (requested \$100)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$100

10. MAINE PUBLIC BROADCAST NETWORK (requested \$100)
Selectmen and Budget committee recommend \$0

11. NORTHEAST CONTACT-BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU (requested \$175)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$0

Article 10: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for DEBT SERVICE.

Michael Sacket motioned to accept the recommendations in sub articles 1 - 5. Ross Steward seconded. Motion passed.

1. FIRST PARK

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$8,128.97 by taxation

2. 2005 ROAD PROJECTS LOAN PAYMENT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$170,000.00 with \$121,000 by taxation & \$49,000 from Road Block Grant.

3. BACKHOE LOAN PAYMENT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,400 by taxation

4. TRUCK LOAN PAYMENT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,680 by taxation.

5. SALT SHED LOAN PAYMENT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$10,618 by taxation.

Article 11: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for LEISURE SERVICES.

Mike Golden motioned to accept the recommendations in sub articles 1 - 7. Andy Davis seconded. Motion passed.

1. RECREATION PROGRAM

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,500 plus fees.

2. SWIM/CAMP PROGRAM

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,000 plus fees.

3. COOLIDGE LIBRARY

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$8,000

4. BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,000

5. AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM (\$4,800 requested)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$4,800 with any unused balance to be placed in the After School Program Reserve Account.

6. BAKER MOUNTAIN SKI CLUB (\$500 requested)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$500

7. LIBRARY SECURITY SYSTEM UPGRADE (\$1,350 requested)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,350

Article 12: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for OTHER SERVICES.

Ross Steward motioned to accept the recommendations in sub articles 1 – 6. Michael Sackett seconded. Motion passed.

1. HUMANE SOCIETY

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,083.30

2. CEMETERIES

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$4,000

3. KENNEBEC VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (requested \$1,374)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,374

4. SOMERSET ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (requested \$100)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$100

5. UPPER KENNEBEC VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (\$1,000 requested)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$0

6. KVCOG PINE TREE ZONE FEE (\$200 requested)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$0

Article 13: Shall the Town use funds from the Highway Equipment Reserve Account and the remainder of the insurance funds for loss on 12/14/07, and authorize a majority of the municipal officers of the Town to borrow on behalf of the Town, a principal amount not to exceed \$61,000 through the issuance of general obligation bonds or notes of the Town of Solon which may be callable bonds or notes, the proceeds to be used for the purpose of purchasing a new tandem axle truck for the Public Works Department; and further to authorize the municipal officers to take any and all action and execute any and all contracts and documents necessary or convenient to issue the bonds or notes of the Town and to purchase this truck and further authorize the Selectmen to sell or trade in the 2000 International truck and to use those funds to pay on the principal of the loan.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Ross Steward motioned to accept the recommendations. Michael Sackett seconded. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Town of Solon

Total Indebtedness:

A. Bonds outstanding and unpaid	\$255,220.36
B. Bonds authorized and unissued	\$ 0.00
C. Bonds to be issued if this question is approved with the Selectmen's recommendation	\$ 61,000.00
TOTAL	\$316,220.36

Costs:

At an estimate maximum interest rate of 4.75%, the estimated cost of this bond issue over five years will be:

Principal	\$ 61,000.00
Interest	\$ 7,650.30
TOTAL NEW DEBT SERVICE	\$ 68,650.30

Validity:

The validity of the bonds and of the voter's certification of the bonds may not be affected by any errors in the above estimates. If actual amount of the total debt service for bond issues varies from the estimate, the ratification by the electors is nevertheless conclusive and the validity of the bond issue is not affected by the reason of variance. /s/ Judith Robertson, Treasurer, Town of Solon

Article 14: Shall the Town establish a Street Name Sign Reserve Account and raise \$300 for the replacement of missing or damaged street name signs?

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Michael Sackett motioned to accept the recommendations. Michael Golden seconded. Motion passed.

Article 15: Shall the Town raise and appropriate by taxation \$5,200 to repair the drainage problem on French Hill Road starting at the intersection of Brighton Road and proceeding east approximately 1,000 feet as recommended by the MDOT Engineer.

Selectmen recommend No

Budget Committee recommends Yes

Ross Steward motioned to accept the Budget Committee recommendation. Andy Davis seconded. Motion passed.

Article 16: Shall the Town raise and appropriate by taxation \$4,000 to breach the Fall Brook Dam to allow fish passage?

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend No

Andy Davis motioned to accept the recommendations. Michael Sackett seconded. Joe Albuit motioned to amend it to raise no funds but to allow IFWD to do their study and to allow IFWD to remove it if they decide to but at IFWD expense. Mark Roman seconded the amendment. The amendment failed. The original Motion passed.

Article 17: Shall the Town revise the "Vacation Ordinance" to the following:

"All full time employees of the Town of Solon shall have the following paid vacations at their normal hourly rate, whether they are appointed, elected or hired at an hourly rate: after one year's employment, 1 week vacation; after 3 years' employment, 2 week vacation; and after 5 years, 3 weeks vacation. An employee must work a minimum of 35 hours per week to be considered full time."?

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend No

Michael Golden motioned to accept the recommendations. Ross Stewart seconded. Motion passed.

Article 18: Shall the Town make the following revision to the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance to change the zoning for Donald Lacasce's land on MapU3 Lots 8, 9 & 10 which are at the northwest corner of the intersection of Ferry Street and North Main Street from Limited Residential to Limited Commercial:

"The lots on MapU3 Lots 8, 9 & 10 which are at the intersection of Ferry Street and North Main Street are zoned Limited Commercial."?

Selectmen recommend and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Ross Steward motioned to accept the recommendations. Michael Sackett seconded. Motion passed.

Article 19: Shall the Town adopt the following ordinance:

Municipal Buildings Maintenance Reserve Account Ordinance

The Municipal Buildings Maintenance Reserve Account is to be used for the Public Works and Transfer Station buildings, Fire Station and Town Office. The Selectmen have the authorization to spend \$1,000 or less from the Municipal Buildings Maintenance Reserve Account for building maintenance projects. The Selectmen have the authorization to spend over \$1,000 but less than \$10,000 from the Municipal Buildings Maintenance Reserve Account for building maintenance projects after convening a Budget Committee meeting and receiving approval of at least 8 members of the Budget Committee. Any expenditure of \$10,000 or more will require a Town Meeting approval.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Michael Sackett motioned to accept the recommendations. Ross Stewart seconded. Motion passed.

Article 20: To see if the Town will give the Selectmen and/or the Fire Chief permission to apply for a grant to purchase a generating system to supply power to the Fire Station and/or the Municipal Office Building in the case of a power outage so the buildings can be used as an emergency shelter and/or an emergency operations center.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Michael Sackett motioned to accept the recommendations. Ross Stewart seconded. Motion passed.

Article 21: To see if the Town will give the Selectmen and/or the Fire Chief permission to apply for a grant to purchase fire fighting and safety equipment for the Fire Department.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Michael Sackett motioned to accept the recommendations. Ross Stewart seconded. Motion passed.

Article 22: To see if the Town will authorize the Tax Collector and Treasurer to apply any property tax overpayment of less than \$20 to that person's the next year's property taxes.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Michael Sackett motioned to accept the recommendations. Andy Davis seconded. Motion passed.

Article 23: To see if the town shall set September 10, 2008 as the date when all unpaid taxes become interest bearing at the rate to be set by the State. (Rate being 11%)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Jim Hills motioned to accept the recommendations. Andy Davis seconded. Motion passed.

Article 24 To see the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed pursuant to 36 M.R.S A Section 506.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Michael Sackett motioned to accept the recommendations. Ross Stewart seconded. Motion passed.

Article 25. If the Town accepts the previous article, what, if any, interest shall the Town pay on these prepaid taxes? (If the Town votes to pay interest, it cannot be more than 11%.)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend 0%.

Ross Stewart motioned to accept the recommendations. Michael Golden seconded. Motion passed.

Article 26: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate from the overlay to pay tax abatements and applicable interest granted during the fiscal year 2008.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Andy Davis motioned to accept the recommendations. Michael Golden seconded. Motion passed.

Article 27: To see if the town will vote to set the interest rate to be paid by the town on abated taxes pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506-A
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes and a rate of 0%.

Andy Davis motioned to accept the recommendations. Ross Stewart seconded. Motion passed.

Article 28: To see if the town shall use any surplus funds in excess of \$80,000.00 to reduce taxes.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Jim Hills motioned to accept the recommendations. Michael Sackett seconded. Motion passed.

Article 29: To see if the town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to make final determinations regarding the closing and opening of roads to winter maintenance pursuant to 23 M.R.S.A Section 2953.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Ann Padham motioned to accept the recommendations. Jim Hills seconded. Motion passed.

Article 30: To see if the town shall authorize the Selectmen to procure a Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) for the purpose of paying municipal indebtedness; such note to be repaid during the current fiscal year from taxes paid during the municipal year.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Michael Sackett motioned to accept the recommendations. Ann Padham seconded. Motion passed.

Article 31: To see if the Town will authorize the municipal officers to apply for, accept and expend grant money available from the State, federal government or other organization for any public purpose when they deem it to be in the town's best interest and any needed matching funds are available within the current budget.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Andy Davis motioned to accept the recommendations. Sarah Davis seconded. Motion passed.

Given under my hand this 6th day of February A.D., 2008,

Elaine Aloes, Chair of Selectman

Mary Lou Ridley, Selectman

Daniel Keegan, Selectman

Attest true copy: Barbara Maden, Town Clerk

Pursuant to within warrant, I have hereby notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Solon, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Solon Elementary School on the first day of March AD 2008 at eight o'clock in the morning then and there in accordance with the Revised Statutes of the State of Maine, 1964, Title 30, Paragraph 2051 and seq. or as amended to act on all articles herein enumerated in this warrant posted at the Solon Town Office, Solon Post Office, Solon Corner Store, Solon Superette and Griswold's Store, conspicuous and public places within Solon, on the 18th day of February AD 2008, which is at least seven days prior to the Annual Town Meeting.

Rance Pooler, a resident of Solon