Solon Maine Annual Town Meeting Warrant 2011

Solon, Me.
WARRANT FOR MARCH 5, 2011 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

To Michael Foster, 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 5th day of March AD 2011 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 et 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. The Moderator will open absentee ballots at 10:00 AM on March 5, 2011. The transaction of other business as enumerated will begin at 1:30 PM.

152 REGISTERED VOTERS VOTED AT THE POLLS
46 REGISTERED VOTERS ATTENDED TOWN MEETING

Article 1: To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.
JIM QUIMBY NOMINATED PHILIP ROY AND JUDY ROBERTSON SECONDED. PHILIP ROY ELECTED MODERATOR.

Article 2: To open polls for election of Town Officials.
Nominated Candidates:
Selectman, three-year term: Sarah Davis 135 VOTES
Road Commissioner: Ronald Giguere 119 VOTES
Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Barbara Maden 147 VOTES
Treasurer: Judith Robertson 144 VOTES
MSAD # 74 School Board Director, three-year term: Laura Layman 112 VOTES
WRITE IN CANDIDATE CHARLES ALOES II 30 VOTES

Article 3: To see if the town will vote to take the following amount from the 2010 Surplus for overage in Workman Compensation Insurance, $466.00.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes
Micheal Golden motioned and Andrew Davis seconded to accept as recommended; motion passed

Article 4: To see if the town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of $448,988, 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
Micheal Golden motioned and Andrew Davis seconded to accept as recommended; motion passed by written ballot: 28 YES AND 13 NO

Article 5: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for GENERAL GOVERNMENT.
Micheal Golden motioned and James Quimby seconded to accept all as recommended; motion passed

1. TOWN CHARGES
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $14,000 plus fees

2. TOWN OFFICE UTILITIES
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $3,400
3. TOWN OFFICE/MAINTENANCE
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $2,000

4. TOWN OFFICE/SECURITY SYSTEM
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $400

5. SCHOOLS, BOOKS & DUES
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $3,500

6. MUNICIPAL OFFICERS SALARIES
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $27,000 as follows:
  Selectmen        $8,500.00 each
  Chair additional  $1,000.00
  Vice-Chair additional $ 500.00

7. TAX COLLECTOR/TOWN CLERK
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $22,500

8. TREASURER
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $5,800

9. DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR/CLERK
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $2,000

10. CODE ENFORCEMENT & PLUMBING INSPECTOR
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $1,700 plus fees.

11. ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $1,800 plus fees.

12. ELECTIONS
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $2,500.00

13. REGISTER OF VOTERS
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $1,500.00

14. COMPUTER FEES
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $2,300

15. MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS MAINTENANCE RESERVE ACCOUNT
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $4,000

16. MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS HEAT
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $13,000

Article 6: To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for PROTECTION.
MICHAEL GOLDEN MOTIONED AND ANDREW DAVIS SECONDED TO ACCEPT ALL AS RECOMMENDED; MOTION PASSED

1. STREET LIGHTS
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $8,000
2. HYDRANT RENTAL
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $17,886

3. FIRE CHIEF
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $6,000

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 $7,500

7. UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $3,547

8. INSURANCE
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $19,500

9. SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE
   Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend $15,000

Article 7: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for HEALTH AND SANITATION.
   NICOLE MARTIN MOTIONED AND JAMES QUIMBY SECONDED TO ACCEPT ALL AS RECOMMENDED; MOTION PASSED

1. TRANSFER STATION
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $60,000 plus fees & income

2. TRANSFER STATION TRUCK AND EQUIPMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $6,500

Article 8: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for PUBLIC WORKS.
   MICHAEL GOLDEN MOTIONED AND JAMES QUIMBY SECONDED TO ACCEPT ALL AS RECOMMENDED; MOTION PASSED

1. WINTER ROADS
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $81,000 plus reimbursements

2. SUMMER ROADS
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $77,000 plus reimbursements

3. MAINTENANCE OF HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $7,000

4. HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $12,900
5. GRAVEL ROADS MAINTENANCE  
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $17,000

6. STREET NAME SIGN RESERVE ACCOUNT  
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $200

7. DRURY ROAD REPAIR  
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $2,500

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

   ANDREW DAVIS MOTIONED AND JAMES QUIMBY SECONDED TO ACCEPT ALL AS RECOMMENDED; MOTION PASSED

1. GENERAL ASSISTANCE  
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $21,520

2. KVCAP BUS SERVICE   (requested $400)  
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $400

3. FAMILY VIOLENCE PROJECT   (requested $1,925)  
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $400

4. HOSPICE   (requested $500)  
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $500

5. SPECTRUM GENERATIONS   (requested $760.00)  
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $760.00

6. KENNEBEC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH   (requested $1,100)  
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $500

7. CRISIS AND COUNSELING CENTERS   (requested $2,943)  
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $500

8. HEADSTART (requested $1,500)  
   Selectmen and Budget committee recommend $1,000

9. 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.

10. RED CROSS (requested $100)  
    Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $100

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

   ANDREW DAVIS MOTIONED AND JAMES QUIMBY SECONDED TO ACCEPT ALL AS RECOMMENDED; MICHAEL GOLDEN AND ANDY DAVIS SECONDED TO CHANGE #4 FIRST PARK TO $8066. AMENDMENT PASSED. THE AMENDED MOTION PASSED
1. **TRUCK LOAN PAYMENT**  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $14,000 by taxation.

2. **SALT SHED LOAN PAYMENT**  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $9,900 by taxation.

3. **2009 ROAD PROJECT LOAN PAYMENT**  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $159,000 by taxation and $49,000 from URIP funds.

4. **FIRST PARK**  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $7,990.00 by taxation.

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

*ANDREW DAVIS MOTIONED AND JAMES QUIMBY SECONDED TO ACCEPT ALL AS RECOMMENDED; MOTION PASSED*

1. **RECREATION PROGRAM**  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $1,500 plus fees.

2. **SWIM/CAMP PROGRAM**  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $500 plus fees.

3. **COOLIDGE LIBRARY ($10,500 requested)**  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $10,500

4. **COOLIDGE LIBRARY BUILDING CAPITAL RESERVE**  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $3,000

5. **AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM RESERVE ACCOUNT ($6,300 requested)**  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $6,300

6. **BAKER MOUNTAIN SKI CLUB ($500 requested)**  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $500

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

*MICHAEL GOLDEN MOTIONED AND JAMES QUIMBY SECONDED TO ACCEPT ALL AS RECOMMENDED; MOTION PASSED*

1. **HUMANE SOCIETY**  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $1,250

2. **CEMETERIES**  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $7,000

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. EVERGREEN CEMETERY STONE MAINTENANCE RESERVE  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $4,500

6. TOWN LINE SURVEY RESERVE  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $3,000

Article 13: To see if the Town will repeal existing ordinances related to Solid Waste and replace them with this “Solid Waste Ordinance”? (see Ordinance attached to the end of this warrant)  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

MICHAEL GOLDEN MOTIONED AND ANDREW DAVIS SECONDED TO WAIVE READING OF THE ENTIRE ORDINANCE IN PREFERENCE OF AN EXPLANATION OF THE ORDINANCE. DAN AMES REQUESTED TO HAVE SECTION 8 READ ALOUD. SECTION 8 WAS READ ALOUD. SELECTMAN SARAH DAVIS EXPLAINED THE ORDINANCE.  
MICHAEL GOLDEN MOTIONED AND ANDREW DAVIS SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ORDINANCE. MOTION PASSED.

Article 14: To see if the Town will adopt the “Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Ordinance”? (see Ordinance attached to the end of this warrant)  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

MICHAEL GOLDEN MOTIONED AND ANDY DAVIS SECONDED TO WAIVE READING OF THE ENTIRE ORDINANCE IN PREFERENCE OF AN EXPLANATION OF THE ORDINANCE. SELECTMAN MARY LOU RIDLEY EXPLAINED THE ORDINANCE. MICHAEL GOLDEN MOTIONED AND ANDREW DAVIS SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ORDINANCE. MOTION PASSED.

Article 15: To see if the Town will repeal the existing “Foreclosed Property Ordinance” and replace it with the following Ordinance?  
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

MICHAEL GOLDEN MOTIONED AND ANDREW DAVIS SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ORDINANCE. MOTION PASSED.

“Foreclosed Property Ordinance”
The disposition of foreclosed property in the Town of Solon shall be determined at the Annual Town Meeting by the vote of the people.
The disposition options are:
1. For the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to give the owner of foreclosed property from the date of the town meeting until the third Friday of March to redeem the property by paying all of the back taxes, interest, costs, fees and penalties assessed by the town. Should the owner fail to redeem the property, the Selectmen are authorized to sell and dispose of the property by public bid and execute a quit-claim deed for such property. If the property is sold by public bid a minimum bid of the total of the back taxes, interest, costs, fees and penalties assessed by the town or at least 33% of the assessed value is required, whichever is higher. All excess proceeds will be credited to the Rainy Day Reserve Fund.
2. Or the Town shall retain the property acquired through non-payment of taxes. This repeals all prior Foreclosed Property Ordinances.
Article 16: To see if the Town will adopt the following Public Works Surplus Ordinance?
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

NICOLE MARTIN MOTIONED AND MICHAEL GOLDEN SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ORDINANCE. MOTION PASSED.

“Public Works Surplus Ordinance”
The Town of Solon shall transfer any unused funds in the Winter Roads and Summer Roads Accounts on December 31st of each year to the Highway Equipment Reserve Account. The Highway Equipment Reserve Account funds can only be used by a vote of the townspeople at a town meeting.

Article 17: To see if the Town will adopt the following Transfer Station Surplus Ordinance?
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

DAN AMES MOTIONED AND NICOLE MARTIN SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ORDINANCE. MOTION PASSED.

“Transfer Station Surplus Ordinance”
The Town of Solon shall transfer any unused funds in the Transfer Station Account on December 31st of each year to the Transfer Station Truck Reserve Account. The Transfer Station Truck Reserve Account funds can only be used by a vote of the townspeople at a town meeting.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to create a Fire Station Capital Reserve Account. The Fire Station Capital Reserve Account is for capital improvements and/or additions to the Fire Station and the funds can only be used by a vote of the townspeople at a town meeting.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

ANDREW DAVIS MOTIONED AND JOE ALBUIT SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ORDINANCE. MOTION PASSED.

Article 19: To see if the Town will adopt the following Fire Department Surplus Ordinance?
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

MICHAEL GOLDEN MOTIONED AND DAN AMES SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ORDINANCE. MOTION PASSED.

“Fire Department Surplus Ordinance”
The Town of Solon shall transfer any unused funds in the Fire Department Account on December 31st of each year to the Fire Station Capital Reserve Account. The Fire Station Capital Reserve Account is for capital improvements and/or additions to the Fire Station and the funds can only be used by a vote of the townspeople at a town meeting.

Article 20: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to dispose of tax acquired property belonging to the Dean and Kelly Morgan for non-payment of 2008 property taxes. The property taxes for 2008 ($106.54), 2009 ($102.40) and 2010 ($87.29) plus interest and lien costs are owed on the property. The property is located at 75 Longley Road, Map R6 Lot 39.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend giving the Morgans until March 21, 2011 at 3:45 pm to pay the 2008, 2009 and 2010 real estate taxes, interests and costs plus any other associated costs. If this amount is not paid the Selectmen will put the property out to bid, set a minimum bid amount and will sell the property to the highest bidder.

ANDREW DAVIS MOTIONED AND MICHAEL GOLDEN SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ARTICLE AS RECOMMENDED. SELECTMEN REPORTED THE MORGAN’S HAVE AGREED TO PAY IN FULL. MOTION PASSED.
Article 21: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to dispose of tax acquired property belonging to the Eric Shannon for non-payment of 2008 property taxes. The property taxes for 2008 ($344.59), 2009 ($330.10) and 2010 ($324.43) plus interest and lien costs are owed on the property. The property is located on the River Road, Map R7 Lot 21.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend giving Eric Shannon until March 21, 2011 at 3:45 pm to pay the 2008, 2009 and 2010 real estate taxes, interests and costs plus any other associated costs. If this amount is not paid the Selectmen will put the property out to bid, set a minimum bid amount and will sell the property to the highest bidder. **MICHAEL GOLDEN MOTIONED AND DAN AMES SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ARTICLE AS RECOMMENDED. SELECTMEN REPORTED THEY HAVE NOT YET HEARD FROM MR. SHANNON. MOTION PASSED.**

Article 22: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to dispose of tax acquired property belonging to the Michael Demo for non-payment of 2008 property taxes. The property taxes for 2008 ($146.69), 2009 ($146.69) and 2010 ($147.76) plus interest and lien costs are owed on the property. The property is located on the Lake Road, Map R1 Lot 16B.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend giving Michael Demo until March 21, 2011 at 3:45 pm to pay the 2008, 2009 and 2010 real estate taxes, interests and costs plus any other associated costs. If this amount is not paid the Selectmen will put the property out to bid, set a minimum bid amount and will sell the property to the highest bidder. **DAN AMES MOTIONED AND KEVIN LACROIX SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ARTICLE AS RECOMMENDED. SELECTMEN REPORTED MR. DEMO HAVE AGREED TO PAY IN FULL. MOTION PASSED.**

Article 23: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to dispose of tax acquired property belonging to the Estate of Ira Damon III for non-payment of 2008 property taxes. The property taxes for 2008 ($515.70), 2009 ($993.60) and 2010 ($1,042.50) plus interest and lien costs are owed on the property. The property is located at 1035 South Solon Road, Map R9 Lot 19.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend giving the Estate of Ira Damon III until March 21, 2011 at 3:45 pm to pay the 2008, 2009 and 2010 real estate taxes, interests and costs plus any other associated costs. If this amount is not paid the Selectmen will put the property out to bid, set a minimum bid amount and will sell the property to the highest bidder. **DAN AMES MOTIONED AND KEVIN LACROIX SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ARTICLE AS RECOMMENDED. SELECTMEN REPORTED THE DAMON’S HAVE AGREED TO PAY IN FULL. MOTION PASSED.**

Article 24: 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.

**MICHAEL GOLDEN MOTIONED AND ANDREW DAVIS SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ARTICLE AS RECOMMENDED. MOTION PASSED.**

Article 25: 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.

**MICHAEL GOLDEN MOTIONED AND JOSEPH ALBUIT SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ARTICLE AS RECOMMENDED. MOTION PASSED.**
Article 26: 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.

ANDREW DAVIS MOTIONED AND MICHAEL GOLDEN SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ARTICLE AS RECOMMENDED. FRANK RIDLEY MOTIONED TO AMEND THE ARTICLE TO READ “TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT AND EXPEND A GRANT”. MICHAEL GOLDEN SECONDED. AMENDMENT PASSED. AMENDED MOTION PASSED.

Article 27: 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.

ANDREW DAVIS MOTIONED AND MICHAEL GOLDEN SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ARTICLE AS RECOMMENDED. NICOLE MARTIN MOTIONED TO AMEND THE ARTICLE TO READ “TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT AND EXPEND A GRANT”. MICHAEL GOLDEN SECONDED. AMENDMENT PASSED. AMENDED MOTION PASSED.

Article 28: To see if the Town will accept the following tax related articles:

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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 2011.

4. To see if the town shall use any surplus funds in excess of $80,000.00 to reduce taxes.

5. 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 GOLDEN MOTIONED AND NICOLE MARTIN SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ARTICLE AS RECOMMENDED. MOTION PASSED.

Article 29: To see if the town shall set September 8, 2011 as the date when all unpaid taxes become interest bearing at the rate to be set by the State. (Rate being 7%)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

ANDREW DAVIS MOTIONED AND MICHAEL GOLDEN SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ARTICLE AS RECOMMENDED. MOTION PASSED.

Article 30: If the Town accepts Article 24-2 (IS ACTUALLY ARTICLE 28-2), what, if any, interest shall the Town pay on these prepaid taxes? (If the Town votes to pay interest, it cannot be more than 7%).

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend 0%.

MICHAEL GOLDEN MOTIONED AND ANDREW DAVIS SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ARTICLE AS RECOMMENDED. MOTION PASSED.
Article 31: 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 Yes and at a rate of 0%.

MICHAEL GOLDEN MOTIONED AND SHERRY ROGERS SECONDED TO ACCEPT THE ARTICLE AS RECOMMENDED. MOTION PASSED.

MICHAEL GOLDEN MOTIONED TO ADJOURN. DAN AMES SECONDED. MOTION PASSED. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:50 PM.

Given under my hand this 9th day of February A.D., 2011,

Elaine Aloes, Chair of Selectmen

Mary Lou Ridley, Selectman

Sarah Davis, 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 fifth day of March AD 2011 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 et 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 24th day of February AD 2011, which is at least seven days prior to the Annual Town Meeting. Michael Foster, a resident of Solon.