Solon Maine Annual Town Meeting Warrant 2017

Solon, Me.
WARRANT FOR MARCH 4, 2017 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

To Dianna Rollins, 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 4th day of March AD 2017 at eight o'clock in the forenoon, then and there, in accordance with the Revised Statues 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. The Moderator will open absentee ballots at 10:00 AM on March 4, 2017. The transaction of other business as enumerated will begin at 1:30 PM.

Article 1: To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.
   Motion by Sharon Begin to elect Peter Mills at Moderator. Linda French 2nd. Motion PASSES.

Article 2: To open polls for election of Town Officials.
   Polls opened at 8:05 a.m.
   Ballot Clerks: Sharon Begin, Linda French
   Warden: Leslie Giroux
   Deputy Moderator: James Quimby

   Nominated Candidates:
   Selectman, 3-year term: Sarah Davis 67
   Lois Miller 2
   Blank 7

   Road Commissioner: Michael Foster 71
   Arthur Rogers 2
   Blank 3

   Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Leslie Giroux 73
   Blank 3

   MSAD # 74 School Board Director, 3 year term: Laura Layman 69
   Bob Lindblom 3

4-H Auction – whoopee pies (Michael Sacket $12) and a custard pie (Jane Oudikurk $25)

2017 Solon Spirit of America Award for Community service in our community is awarded to Michael Sacket

Article 3: To see if the town will vote to take the following amount from the 2016 Surplus for overage in the Town Charges: $1,563.62.
   Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes
   Motion to Accept Article 3 as recommended: Andy Davis
   2nd: Michael Golden
   MOTION PASSES

Article 4: To see if the town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of $548,817, 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
   Motion to Accept Article 4 as recommended: Michael Golden
   2nd: Ann Padham
   MOTION PASSES
Article 5: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

1. TOWN CHARGES
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $15,000 plus fees

2. TOWN OFFICE UTILITIES
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $3,500

3. TOWN OFFICE/MAINTENANCE
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $1,500

4. TOWN OFFICE/SECURITY SYSTEM
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $372

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

6. MUNICIPAL OFFICERS SALARIES
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $31,000 as follows:
   Selectmen $9,833.00 each
   Chair additional $1,001.00
   Vice-Chair additional $ 500.00

7. TAX COLLECTOR/TOWN CLERK
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $22,000

8. TREASURER
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $11,600

9. DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR/CLERK
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $2,500

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 $2,000

13. REGISTER OF VOTERS
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $2,000

14. COMPUTER FEES
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $4,160

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

16. MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS HEAT
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $10,000

17. TOWN RECORDS PRESERVATION RESERVE
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $2,000

Motion to accept Article 5.01-.17 as recommended: Sherry Rogers
2nd: Michael Golden MOTION PASSES

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

1. STREET LIGHTS
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $9,000

2. HYDRANT RENTAL
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $21,864

3. FIRE CHIEF
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $6,800

4. FIRE DEPARTMENT
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $24,000 plus reimbursements
5. FIRE TRUCK RESERVE ACCOUNT
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $3,000

6. WORKER COMPENSATION INSURANCE
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $10,078

7. UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $3,500

8. INSURANCE
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $18,000

9. SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE
Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommends $17,500

Motion to accept Article 6.01-.09 as recommended: Sherry Rogers
2nd: Michael Golden MOTION PASSES

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

1. TRANSFER STATION
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $67,000 plus fees & income

2. TRANSFER STATION TRUCK AND EQUIPMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $5,000

Motion to accept Article 7.01-.02 as recommended: Sherry Rogers
2nd: Michael Sacket MOTION PASSES
Article 8: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for PUBLIC WORKS.

1. WINTER ROADS
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $90,000 plus reimbursements

2. SUMMER ROADS
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $100,000 plus reimbursements

3. MAINTENANCE OF HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $10,000

4. HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $15,000

5. STREET NAME SIGN RESERVE ACCOUNT
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $300

6. SIDEWALK REPAIR RESERVE ACCOUNT
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $1,500

7. ROAD PAVING RESERVE ACCOUNT
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $217,000

8. GARAGE WELL RESERVE ACCOUNT
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $3,500

Motion to accept Article 8.01-.08 as recommended: Sherry Rogers
2nd: Andy Davis  MOTION PASSES

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

1. GENERAL ASSISTANCE
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $20,000

2. KVCAP BUS SERVICE  (requested $500)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $500

3. HEADSTART  (requested $800)
Selectmen and Budget committee recommend $800

4. FAMILY VIOLENCE PROJECT  (requested $1,000)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $400

5. HOSPICE  (requested $1,200)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $500

6. SPECTRUM GENERATIONS  (requested $760)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $760

7. KENNEBEC BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  (requested $1,000)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $500
8. SEXUAL SUPPORT CRISIS CENTER  (requested $369.25)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $300

9. SOLON FOOD CUPBOARD  (requested $2,000)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $2,000

10. CRISIS AND COUNSELING CENTERS  (requested $1,987)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $500

11. LIFE FLIGHT FOUNDATION  (requested $527)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $0

12. AMERICAN RED CROSS  (requested $250)
Selectmen recommend $125 and Budget Committee recommends $250

13. COMMUNITY HEALTH AND COUNSELING  (requested $216)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $100

14. HEALTH EQUITY ALLIANCE  (requested $500)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $0

Motion to accept Article 9.01-.14 as recommended by Budget Committee: Andy Davis
2nd: Michael Golden  MOTION PASSES

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

1. FIRST PARK
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $7,500 by taxation plus First Park Revenue funds as needed.

Motion to accept Article 10 as recommended: Michael Golden
2nd: Frank Evangelista  MOTION PASSES

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

1. RECREATION PROGRAM  ($2,200 requested)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $2,200 plus fees.

Motion to amend Article 11.01 to $2,500: Alicia Golden
2nd: Michael Golden II  MOTION PASSES

2. RECREATION FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE RESERVE
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $1,000

3. SWIM/CAMP PROGRAM  ($1,200 requested)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $1,200 plus fees.

4. COOLIDGE LIBRARY RESERVE  ($15,500 requested)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $10,500 plus fees and investment income
5. COOLIDGE LIBRARY BUILDING CAPITAL RESERVE ($3,000 requested)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $3,000

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

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

Motion to accept Article 11.02-.07 as recommended: Sherry Rogers
2nd: Michael Golden
MOTION PASSES

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

1. ANIMAL SHELTER
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $2,110

2. CEMETERIES
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $10,800

3. CEMETERY MAINTENANCE RESERVE
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $3,500

4. KENNEBEC VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (requested $1,621)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $1,621

5. SOMERSET ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (requested $100)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $100

6. TOWN LINE SURVEY RESERVE
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $1,000

7. TOWN FLAGS RESERVE
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $300

8. MAINE PUBLIC TV RADIO INTERNET (requested (100)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $0

9. SKOWHEGAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (requested $2,079.93)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend $0

Motion to accept Article 12.01-.09 as recommended: Sherry Rogers
2nd: Ann Padham
MOTION PASSES

Article 13: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate $3,400 by taxation to purchase the TRIO Budgetary computer program.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Motion to accept Article 13 as recommended: Michael Golden
2nd: Andy Davis
MOTION PASSES
Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to repair and repave the sidewalks on South Main Street, School Street, Pleasant Street and the southerly portion of North Main Street.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes and to use $9,700 from the Sidewalk Repair Reserve Account and to use up to $45,000 from the Road Paving Reserve Account.

Motion to accept Article 14 as recommended: Michael Golden
2nd: Sherry Rogers MOTION PASSES

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to do ditching and to replace culverts on the South Solon Road and the Meeting House Road this summer in preparation for a road paving project in 2018 on these two roads.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes and to use up to $25,000 from the Road Paving Reserve Account

Motion to accept Article 15 as recommended: Michael Golden
2nd: Ray Kozupa MOTION PASSES

Article 16: To see if the Town will vote to pay off the Highway Department New Truck Loan this year.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes and to use up to $20,000 from the Highway Equipment Reserve Account.

Motion to accept Article 16 as recommended: Michael Golden
2nd: Ray Kozupa MOTION PASSES

Article 17: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to trade in our 1991 Ford L900 Roll Off Truck and to purchase a used Roll Off Truck for the Transfer Station.
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend taking out a loan for $21,000 and spending up to $56,000 from the Transfer Station Truck and Tub Reserve Account.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
Town of Solon
Total Indebtedness:
- a. Bonds outstanding and unpaid $18,392.39
- b. Bonds Authorized and unissued $ 0.00
- c. Bonds to be issued if this question is approved with the Selectmen’s recommendation $ 21,000.00
  TOTAL $39,392.39

Costs:
At an estimate maximum interest rate of 3.5%, the estimated cost of this bond issue over 3 years will be:
- Principal $21,000.00
- Interest $ 1,228.93
  TOTAL NEW DEBT SERVICE $22,228.93

Validity:
The validity of the bonds and of the voters’ certification of the bonds may not be affected by any errors in the above estimates. If actual amount of the total debt service for the 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 the variance. /s/ Sharon Begin, Treasurer, Town of Solon

Motion to accept Article 17 as recommended: Michael Golden
2nd: Andy Davis MOTION PASSES
Article 18: To see if the Town will raise and appropriate $3,000 by taxation to upgrade the Town Office computers system and to replace the 2008 Savin copier.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Motion to accept Article 18 as recommended: Andy Davis
2nd: Michael Sackett  MOTION PASSES

Article 19: To see what the Town wishes to do with Goldamer property on Wentworth (Ironbound) Pond. Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend contacting the abutting land owners to see if any of them are interested in purchasing the property.

Motion to Amend Article 19 by Andy Davis.
2nd: Ray Kozupa

“Article 19: To allow the Selectmen to dispose of the tax acquired (previously owned by Goldamer) on Wentworth (Ironbound Pond) by putting it out to public bid subject to a minimum amount to be deemed appropriate by the Selectmen with the Selectmen authorized to accept the highest bid.”

Motion to accept Article 19 as Amended: Michael Golden
2nd: Andy Davis  MOTION PASSES

Article 20: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to dispose of tax acquired property belonging to Steve Carey for non-payment of 2014 property taxes. The property taxes for 2014 ($1,205.66), 2015 ($1,271.03) and 2016 ($1,292.81) plus interest and lien costs are owed on the property. The property is located at 352 Brighton Road, Map R2 Lot 26.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend giving one or all of the owners and heirs of the property until March 17, 2017 at 3:45 pm to pay the 2014, 2015 and 2016 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 per our Foreclosed Property Ordinance and will sell the property to the highest bidder.

Correction by Selectmen to Article 14 to change ‘owners’ to ‘owners and heirs’.

Motion to Accept as read by Moderator: Michael Golden
2nd: Andy Davis  MOTION PASSES

Article 21: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to dispose of tax acquired property belonging to Louis Vallee for non-payment of 2014 property taxes. The property taxes for 2014 ($740.86), 2015 ($781.03) and 2016 ($794.41) plus interest and lien costs are owed on the property. The property is located at on the West Road, Map R7 Lot 10.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend giving one or all of the owners of the property until March 17, 2017 at 3:45 pm to pay the 2014, 2015 and 2016 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 per our Foreclosed Property Ordinance and will sell the property to the highest bidder.

Motion to accept Article 14 as recommended: Michael Golden
2nd: Andy Davis  MOTION PASSES

Article 22: 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.
Motion to accept Article 22 as recommended: Joe Albuit

2nd: Michael Golden

MOTION PASSES

Article 23: To see if the Town will authorize the municipal officers to apply for, accept and expend grant money available from the State or 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.

Article 24: To see if the Town will give the Selectmen and/or the Fire Chief permission to apply for, accept and expend any grants to purchase equipment, firefighting equipment and safety equipment for the Fire Department. Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

Article 25: 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 $50 to that person’s 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 2017.

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.

Article 26: If the Town accepts Article 25-2, 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 recommend 0%.

Motion to accept Article 23-26 as recommended: Michael Golden

2nd: Andy Davis

MOTION PASSES

Article 27: To see if the town shall set September 16, 2017 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.

Motion to accept Article 27 as recommended: Michael Golden

2nd: Michael Sackett

MOTION PASSES

Article 28: 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 at a rate of 0%.

Motion to accept Article 14 as recommended: Andy Davis

2nd: Joe Albuit

MOTION PASSES
Given under my hand this 8th day of February A.D., 2017,

Elaine Aloes, Chair of Selectmen

Mary Lou Ridley, Selectman

Sarah Davis, Selectman

Attest true copy: Leslie Giroux, 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 fourth day of March AD 2017 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 17th day of February AD 2017, which is at least seven days prior to the Annual Town Meeting.

Dianna Rollins, a resident of Solon.