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Solon Maine Annual Town Meeting Warrant 2018

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WARRANT FOR MARCH 3, 2018 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 3rd day of March AD 2018 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. The Moderator will open absentee ballots at 10:00 AM on March 3, 2018. The transaction of other business as enumerated will begin at 1:30 PM.

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

Article 2: To open polls for election of Town Officials.

Nominated Candidates:

Selectman, 3-year term: Keith Gallagher

Road Commissioner: Gary Bishop

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Leslie Giroux

MSAD # 74 School Board Director, 3 year term: Robert Lindblom

Article 3: To see if the town will vote to take the following amount from the 2017 Surplus for overage in the Deputy Clerk: \$2.00 and Social Security/Medicare \$344.87.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

Article 4: To see if the town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of \$561,959, 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

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 \$16,500 plus fees

2. TOWN OFFICE UTILITIES

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$3,600

3. TOWN OFFICE/MAINTENANCE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,000

4. TOWN OFFICE/SECURITY SYSTEM

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$372

5. SCHOOLS, BOOKS & DUES

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$4,000

6. MUNICIPAL OFFICERS SALARIES

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$31,500 as follows:

Selectmen	\$9,833.00 each
Chair additional	\$1,251.00
Vice-Chair additional	\$ 750.00

7. TAX COLLECTOR/TOWN CLERK

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$22,750

8. TREASURER

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$13,000

9. DEPUTY TAX COLLECTOR/CLERK

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$4,000

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 \$2,000

13. REGISTER OF VOTERS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,000

14. COMPUTER PROGRAM FEES

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,000

15. MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS MAINTENANCE RESERVE ACCOUNT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$3,000

16. MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS HEAT RESERVE ACCOUNT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$7,000

17. TOWN RECORDS PRESERVATION RESERVE ACCOUNT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$3,000

18. MUNICIPAL GROUNDS MAINTENANCE RESERVE ACCOUNT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,500

19. MCQUILKEN ROAD ISSUE COSTS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$3,000

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

1. STREET LIGHTS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$9,200

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 \$30,000 plus reimbursements

5. WORKER COMPENSATION INSURANCE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$10,576

6. UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,220

7. INSURANCE

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$18,000

8. SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE

Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommends \$19,000

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 \$69,000 plus fees & income

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 \$100,000 plus reimbursements

2. SUMMER ROADS

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$110,000 plus reimbursements

3. HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$15,000

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 \$15,000

2. KVCAP BUS SERVICE (requested \$500)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$500

3. HEADSTART (requested \$900)

Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommends \$900

4. FAMILY VIOLENCE PROJECT (requested \$1,000)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$400

5. HOSPICE (requested \$1,200)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$600

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 \$526)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$200
12. AMERICAN RED CROSS (requested \$250)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$150
13. COMMUNITY HEALTH AND COUNSELING (requested \$180)
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.

1. FIRST PARK
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$7,000 by taxation plus First Park Revenue funds as needed.
2. TRANSFER STATION TRUCK LOAN
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$7,420
3. FIRE TRUCK LOAN
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$4,610

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

1. RECREATION PROGRAM (\$2,500 requested)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,500 plus fees.
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 (\$11,810 requested)
Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$11,810 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 (\$750 requested)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$750

8. 4th OF JULY FIREWORKS (\$1,000)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,000

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 \$2,106

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 \$500

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

13. To see what the Town wishes to do with the Goldhamer property on Wentworth (Ironbound) Pond.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend posting it as public land.

14. To see if the Town will repeal the current Municipal Buildings Maintenance Reserve Account Ordinance and replace it with this revised Municipal Buildings Maintenance Reserve Account Ordinance.

The Municipal Buildings Maintenance Reserve Account is to be used for the Public Works, Transfer Station, Fire Station, Coolidge Library and Town Office buildings. The Selectmen have the authorization to spend \$5,000 or less from the Municipal Buildings Maintenance Reserve Account for a building maintenance project. The Selectmen have the authorization to spend \$5,001 to \$10,000 from the Municipal Buildings

Maintenance Reserve Account for a building maintenance project after convening a Budget Committee meeting and receiving approval of at least 8 members of the Budget Committee. Any building maintenance project over \$10,000 will require a Town Meeting approval. This repeals and replaces the Municipal Buildings Maintenance Reserve Account Ordinance that was adopted at the March 1, 2008 Annual Town Meeting.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

15. To see if the Town will close the Garage Well Reserve Account and have the balance in the account lapse into Surplus. (Balance \$166.19)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

16. To see if the Town will close the Street Name Sign Reserve Account and have the balance lapse into Surplus. (Balance \$71.14)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes

17. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to dispose of tax acquired property belonging to the Heirs of David Gray for non-payment of 2015 property taxes. The property taxes for 2015 (\$1,098.00), 2016 (\$1,068.00) and 2017 (\$1,050.000) plus interest and lien costs are owed on the property. The property is located on 39 Cross Street, Map U3 Lot 3.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend giving the heirs of David Gray until March 16, 2018 at 3:45 pm to pay the 2015, 2016 and 2017 real estate taxes, interests and costs plus any other associated costs. If this amount is not paid the Town will retain ownership of the property.

18. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to dispose of tax acquired property belonging to Jessica Salisbury for non-payment of 2015 property taxes. The property taxes for 2015 (\$646.51), 2016 (\$1,370.60) and 2017 (\$1,317.60) plus interest and lien costs are owed on the property. The property is located on 9 School Street, Map U5 Lot 50.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend giving Jessica Salisbury until March 16, 2018 at 3:45 pm to pay the 2015, 2016 and 2017 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.

19. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to dispose of tax acquired property belonging to Michael Walker for non-payment of 2015 property taxes. The property taxes for 2015 (\$612.50), 2016 (\$623.00) and 2017 (\$640.50) plus interest and lien costs are owed on the property. The property is located on the east side of Ironbound (Wentworth) Pond, Map U3 Lot 26.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend giving Michael Walker until March 16, 2018 at 3:45 pm to pay the 2015, 2016 and 2017 real estate taxes, interests and costs plus any other associated costs. If this amount is not paid the Selectmen will waive putting it out to bid and will offer it to the abutter, Victor Bissell.

20. Shall the Town appropriate funds, apply for and accept any grant money that becomes available for this purpose and authorize a majority of the municipal officers of the Town to borrow on behalf of the Town, a principal amount not to exceed \$98,000 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 repaving the Meeting House Road and the South Solon Road; 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 award the road paving contract. Any grant funds received for this purpose will be used to reduce the amount needed to borrow or to pay on the loan principal. Any remaining balance from the road project will be applied to the principal of the loan.

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes and to appropriate \$250,854 from the Road Paving Reserve Account, \$167,000 from the LRAP Reserve Account, \$209,680 from the 2018 payment of the 2017 property tax on the BIF Dam and the \$4,704 interest charge, and to borrow \$98,000. Also any funds left over from the paving project will be used to pay on the principal of the loan.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Town of Solon

Total Indebtedness:

A. Bonds outstanding and unpaid	\$ 53,000.00
B. Bonds authorized and unissued	\$ 0.00
C. Bonds to be issued if this question is approved with the Selectmen's recommendation	<u>\$ 98,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$151,000.00

Costs:

At an estimate maximum interest rate of 3.5%, the estimated cost of this bond issue over two years will be:

Principal	\$ 98,000.00
Interest	<u>\$ 2,000.00</u>
TOTAL NEW DEBT SERVICE	\$100,000.00

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/ Sharon Begin, Treasurer, Town of Solon

Article 21: 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.

Article 22: 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 23: 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 24: 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 25: If the Town accepts Article 24-2, what, if any, interest shall the Town pay on these prepaid taxes? (If the Town votes to pay interest, it cannot be more than 8%.)

Selectmen recommend 0%.

Article 26: To see if the town shall set September 15, 2018 as the date when all unpaid taxes become interest bearing at the rate to be set by the State. (Rate being 8%)

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend Yes.

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 at a rate of 0%.

Given under my hand this 7th day of February A.D., 2018,

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 third day of March AD 2018 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 7th day of February AD 2018, which is at least seven days prior to the Annual Town Meeting.

Dianna Rollins, a resident of Solon.