

TOWN OF CASCO
Annual Town Meeting
June 5, 2024 & June 11, 2024
Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Article 1&2. The results of the June 11, 2024 Municipal Election were as follows:

MUNICIPAL ELECTION RESULTS
JUNE 11, 2024

<u>OFFICE CANDIDATE</u>	<u>TOTAL VOTES</u>
Selectboard Member	
Avery, Scott	178
Blanks	22
<u>Write-ins (listed below)</u>	6
Symonds, William-1	
Mains, Sorell-1	
Mulkern, Thomas-1	
Willey, James-1	
Kimball, David-1	
Leslie, Edward-1	
MSAD #61 Board of Directors Member	
Brown Jr, Thomas	145
Blanks	37
<u>Write-ins (listed below)</u>	24
Mains, Sorell- 19	
Pomelow, Eric-1	
Mulkern, Thomas-1	
Plummer, Greg- 1	
Leslie, Brenda- 1	
Sturk, Joshua-1	
Open Space Commission Member- Remainder of Term Expiring June 2025	
Blanks	185
<u>Write-ins (listed below)</u>	21
Fogg, Deborah- 1	

Dibner, Eric- 2
 Wardwell Sr, John-1
 *Lewis, Jennifer- 2
 Mains, Sorell- 1
 Burnell, Richard- 1
 Cyr, Gerald- 1
 Nguyen, Tuan- 3
 Witonis, Susan- 1
 Brown, Sam- 2
 Sama, Ralph- 1
 Brown Sr, Thomas- 1
 Cormier, Michael- 1
 Buxton, Richard- 1
 Mulkern, Thomas- 1
 Nute, Roger- 1
 *Accepted winner

Open Space Commission Member- Remainder of Term Expiring June 2026

Blank	194
<u>Write-ins (listed below)</u>	12
*Dibner, Eric- 4	
Wardwell Sr, John- 1	
Mains, Sorell- 1	
Mulkern, Thomas- 1	
Dennehy, Paul- 1	
Brown Sr, Thomas- 1	
Cormier, Michael- 1	
Buxton, Richard- 1	
Nute, Roger- 1	
*Accepted winner	

Article 3. Richard Sykes was elected and sworn in to serve as moderator to preside at said meeting.

Article 4. It was moved, seconded and voted to permit municipal administrators or staff, and elected State officials, who are not registered voters of Casco, to speak as appropriate when recognized by the moderator.

****The "Clicker" system wasn't working at the beginning of the meeting, so we continued with hand votes. Exact vote counts are not known until the clicker system was working again after question 8.**

Article 5. It was moved, seconded and voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$946,764 to fund **ADMINISTRATION.**

Account	Amount
Payroll	\$556,864
Services	\$153,200
Supplies/Equipment	\$ 35,000
Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 17,000
Training/Travel	\$ 15,400
Assessing	\$104,300
Legal Service	\$ 35,000
Contingency	\$ 30,000
Total	\$946,764

Article 6. It was moved, seconded and voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$143,437 to fund **CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Account	Amount
Code Enforcement	\$143,437
Total	\$143,437

Article 7. Original Article: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$73,200 to fund **PLANNING, PLANNING BOARD AND ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS.**
Trevor Tidd amended the motion to raise and appropriate \$5,375.00. The amendment is seconded. There is considerable discussion regarding planning services. The moderator called for a vote on the amendment. Amendment failed.
The moderator called for a vote on the article as written. It was moved, seconded and voted to pass the article as written.

Account	Amount
Planning Board/ZBA	\$ 5,200
Planning Services	\$ 68,000
Total	\$ 73,200

Article 8. It was moved, seconded and voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$358,295 to fund **RECREATION, PARKS & BEACHES, FACILITIES, CEMETERIES, OPEN SPACE COMMISSION & VETERANS COMMITTEE.**

Account	Amount
Recreation	\$219,864
Parks & Beaches	\$ 14,000
Facilities-CCC, Access Building	\$107,831
Cemeteries	\$ 9,100
Open Space Commission	\$ 5,000
Veterans Committee	\$ 2,500
Total	\$358,295

Article 9. Original Article: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$186,132 to fund **GENERAL ASSISTANCE and DONATION.**

Trevor Tidd amended the motion to raise and appropriate \$172,060.00. The amendment is seconded. After discussion on the amendment, the moderator called for a vote and the amendment failed.

The moderator called for a vote on the article as written. It was moved, seconded and voted to pass the article as written.

Account	Amount
General Assistance	\$ 47,520
Home Health Visiting Nurse	\$ 2,300
Casco Public Library	\$ 91,200
Northern Light Health	\$ 1,000
Through These Doors (Family Crisis)	\$ 1,100
Tri County Counseling	\$ 1,000
Opportunity Alliance	\$ 5,000
Sebago Lakes Region Chamber	\$ 1,500
Lake Region Bus Service	\$ 10,000
Life Flight	\$ 912
Crescent Lake Watershed	\$ 2,000
Lake Monitoring Program	\$ 3,000
Thompson Lake Environ. Assoc.	\$ 2,500
Lake Environ. Assoc. Milfoil Project	\$ 5,000
Pleasant Lake/Parker Pond Assoc.	\$ 4,000
Local Food Pantries	\$ 3,600
American Legion	\$ 1,000
Crooked River Snowmobile Club	\$ 2,000
Other	\$ 0
Total:	\$186,132

(FINAL VOTE 66 YES 22 NO 1 ABSTAIN)

Article 10. It was moved, seconded and voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,258,354 to fund

FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT.

Account	Amount
Payroll	\$935,115
Services	\$112,189
Supplies/Equipment	\$110,500
Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 79,550
Training/Travel	\$ 21,000
Total:	\$1,258,354

(FINAL VOTE 70 YES 19 NO 1 ABSTAIN)

Article 11. Original Article: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$132,939 to fund **ANIMAL CONTROL & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT.**

Trevor Tidd amended the motion to raise and appropriate \$36,890.00. The amendment is not seconded. Amendment withdrawn. Trevor Tidd made a new amendment to raise and appropriate \$112,939. The moderator called for a vote on the amendment. Amendment failed. The moderator called for a vote on the article as written. It was moved, seconded and voted to pass the article as written.

Account	Amount
Animal Control	\$127,789
Emergency Management	\$ 5,150
Total:	\$132,939

(FINAL VOTE 42 YES 41 NO 1 ABSTAIN)

Article 12. It was moved, seconded and voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,031,949 to fund **PUBLIC WORKS/ROADS AND DAMS.**

Account	Amount
Payroll	\$166,589
Services	\$623,360
Supplies/Equipment	\$209,000
Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 20,300
Training/Travel	\$ 2,700
Subtotal Public Works:	\$1,021,949
Dams	\$ 10,000
Total:	\$1,031,949

(FINAL VOTE 65 YES 23 NO 0 ABSTAIN)

Article 13. It was moved, seconded and voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$917,828 to fund **BENEFITS/INSURANCE AND UTILITIES.**

Account	Amount
Benefits & Insurance	\$817,328
Utilities	\$100,500
Total:	\$917,828

(FINAL VOTE 66 YES 17 NO 3 ABSTAIN)

Article 14. It was moved, seconded and voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$470,660 to fund **TRANSFER STATION AND BULKY WASTE FACILITY.**

Account	Amount
Interlocal Agreement	\$375,880
Professional Services	\$ 94,780
Total:	\$470,660

(FINAL VOTE 59 YES 19 NO 1 ABSTAIN)

Article 15. It was moved and seconded but voters did not pass to raise and appropriate the sum of \$269,000 to fund **CONTRACTED LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICE** with Cumberland County Sheriff's Department.

Account	Amount
Law Enforcement	\$269,000
Total:	\$269,000

(FINAL VOTE 20 YES 62 NO 5 ABSTAIN)

Article 16. It was moved, seconded and voted to appropriate the sum of \$176,865 from the *Unassigned Funds* for completing the lease purchases of the 2024 GMC 1-ton truck and the 2023 John Deere backhoe.

(FINAL VOTE 51 YES 30 NO 3 ABSTAIN)

Article 17. It was moved, seconded and voted to appropriate the sum of \$363,932 for debt services payments.

(FINAL VOTE 59 YES 14 NO 6 ABSTAIN)

Article 18. It was moved, seconded and voted to authorize the Selectboard to receive and appropriate non-property tax revenues, not otherwise dedicated for specific purposes, to reduce the property tax commitment for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Anticipated non-property tax revenues for fiscal year beginning July 01, 2024, include the following approximation of State and Town Revenues:

	Amount
I. Excise Tax	\$ 925,000
II. Municipal Revenue Sharing	\$ 390,000
III. Homestead Exemption Reimbursement	\$ 165,000
IV. BETE Reimbursement	\$ 65,000
V. Other Non-Property Taxes	\$ 723,742
Total ESTIMATED Non-Property Tax Revenue	\$ 2,268,742

(FINAL VOTE 71 YES 9 NO 0 ABSTAIN)

Article 19. It was moved, seconded and voted to, in accordance with 36 M.R.S.A. Section 505(2), set the dates that FY 2024-2025 real and personal property taxes are due, as follows: first half shall be due Wednesday October 09, 2024 or 45 days after commitment, whichever date is later, and second half shall be due Wednesday, March 5, 2025 and to charge interest starting fourteen (14) days after each due date.

(FINAL VOTE 72 YES 6 NO 3 ABSTAIN)

Article 20. Original Article: To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 M.R.S.A. Section 505(4), will vote that property taxes shall be delinquent if not paid by the dates established in Article 20 and that interest, at the rate of 8.5% per annum, shall be charged on all delinquent property taxes.

Deb Fogg amended the motion to change the interest rate to 4%. The amendment is seconded.

The moderator called for a vote and the amendment passed. It was moved, seconded and voted to pass the article as amended.

(FINAL VOTE 68 YES 4 NO 1 ABSTAIN)

Article 21. Original Article: To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506-A, will vote that a taxpayer who pays an amount in excess of that finally assessed shall be repaid the amount of the overpayment plus interest from the date of the overpayment at the annual rate of 8.5%.

Tuan Nguyen amended the motion to change the interest rate to 4%. The amendment is seconded.

The moderator called for a vote and the amendment passed. It was moved, seconded and voted to pass the article as amended.

(FINAL VOTE 68 YES 6 NO 2 ABSTAIN)

Article 22. It was moved, seconded and voted to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes not yet committed, the amount collected not to exceed the previous year's taxes, and to set the interest at 0% APR for overpayments pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506.

(FINAL VOTE 72 YES 1 NO 2 ABSTAIN)

Article 23. It was moved, seconded and voted to authorize the Selectboard, on behalf of the Town, to accept and expend state and federal grants, including funding from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and grants from non-profit organizations, donations and other revenue on behalf of the town for municipal purposes, including when necessary the authority to sign grants and contracts documents or other paperwork and accept the conditions that accompany grant funds, so long as those conditions do not require the expenditure of matching funds by the town in excess of approved budgets, and to appropriate and expend grant funds or such other donations and other revenues for authorized purposes, as the Selectboard deems in the best interest of the Town during the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

(FINAL VOTE 75 YES 2 NO 3 ABSTAIN)

Article 24. It was moved, seconded and voted to authorize the Selectboard to retain, sell or dispose of, by such means and upon such terms and conditions as the Selectboard deems advisable, any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon, and to execute such contracts, deeds and other instruments, and to take such other actions as may in the Selectboard's judgment be advisable to effect the sale of such property, or, if the property is residential property and is occupied by the immediate former owner(s), the Selectboard may convey the property to the immediate former owner(s) upon payment in full of all taxes, interest and charges incurred by the Town within 90 days of notice to the immediate former owner(s) of the repurchase opportunity; provided, however, that the Selectboard shall comply with the requirements of 36 M.R.S. § 943-C if it chooses to sell the property to anyone other than the former owner(s).

(FINAL VOTE 59 YES 16 NO 3 ABSTAIN)

Article 25 It was moved, seconded and voted to authorize the Treasurer to waive the foreclosure of a tax lien mortgage by recording a waiver of foreclosure at the Registry of Deeds in which the tax lien certificate is recorded prior to expiration of the right of redemption pursuant to 36 M.R.S. § 944 upon a finding by the Selectboard that ownership of the property that is subject to the tax lien mortgage would be contrary to the Town's best interests.

(FINAL VOTE 67 YES 3 NO 4 ABSTAIN)

Article 26. It was moved, seconded and voted to authorize the Selectboard, on behalf of the Town, to accept and expend gifts, donations, or any other funds meant to support the municipal function, operation, or improvement of the Town during the period of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025.

(FINAL VOTE 68 YES 6 NO 0 ABSTAIN)

Article 27. It was moved, seconded and voted to authorize the Selectboard to sell and/or dispose of town-owned assets (excluding land) determined to be obsolete or surplus with a value of \$50,000 or less, under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

(FINAL VOTE 66 YES 9 NO 0 ABSTAIN)

Article 28. It was moved, seconded and voted to authorize the payment of any tax abatements, including interest, approved by the Selectboard from the property tax overlay, or if necessary, from the unassigned fund balance.

(FINAL VOTE 60 YES 5 NO 3 ABSTAIN)

Article 29. It was moved, seconded and voted to authorize the continued plowing and sanding of certain private roads for which the Town has obtained public easements and which meet the criteria approved in a Regular Town Meeting June 9, 2021, or any subsequent criteria or standards, and authorize the Selectboard to discontinue the plowing of certain private roads that no longer meet criteria approved in a Regular Town Meeting June 9, 2021, or any subsequent criteria or standards, or where the public easement has been withdrawn or denied.

(FINAL VOTE 46 YES 33 NO 1 ABSTAIN)

Article 30. It was moved, seconded and voted to authorize the Selectboard to take all actions necessary to acquire ownership of the Lakeside Cemetery, including undertaking any court or similar legal action required to transfer the Cemetery trust funds to the Town.

(FINAL VOTE 62 YES 3 NO 2 ABSTAIN)

Proposed FY 2024-2025 Capital Improvement/Equipment Budget

Article 31. It was moved, seconded and voted to appropriate the sum of \$100,000 from the *Unassigned Funds* for updating and remodeling 9 Leach Hill Road into a Meeting House.

(FINAL VOTE 40 YES 31 NO 2 ABSTAIN)

Article 32. It was moved, seconded and voted to appropriate the sum of \$20,300 from *Unassigned Funds* for the purchase and replacement of a portion of the Fire Department portable radios.

(FINAL VOTE 50 YES 16 NO 2 ABSTAIN)

Article 33. It was moved, seconded but voters did not pass to appropriate the sum of \$50,000 from *Unassigned Funds* along with \$100,000 in Grant funding for the construction of restrooms at Casco Community Park.

(FINAL VOTE 29 YES 38 NO 4 ABSTAIN)

Article 34. It was moved, seconded and voted appropriate the sum of \$163,000 from the *unassigned funds* for the purchase of a one and half (1.5) ton plow truck and plowing gear.

(FINAL VOTE 37 YES 35 NO 2 ABSTAIN)

Article 35. Original Article: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$396,000 for the FY25 Road projects (that include ditching and paving of Glen Drive Road and portions of

Quaker Ridge Road; & paving of Moose Run, New Road, South Casco Village Road, and Sunny Hill Road).

Sam Brown amended the motion to raise and appropriate \$197,500.00. (Reduction of 50%)

The amendment is seconded. The moderator called for a vote on the amendment.

Amendment failed. The moderator called for a vote on the article as written. It was moved, seconded and voted to pass the article as written.

(FINAL VOTE 56 YES 17 NO 0 ABSTAIN)

Article 36. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$226,000 for the repairing, ditching, and paving of Stone Road.

(FINAL VOTE 54 YES 18 NO 2 ABSTAIN)

Proposed FY 2024-2025 Ordinances

Article 37. It was moved, seconded and voted to enact an ordinance entitled “2024 Amendments to the Town of Casco Zoning and Land Use Ordinance to modify Flood Zones” (See Addendum 1).

(FINAL VOTE 54 YES 8 NO 4 ABSTAIN)

Article 38. It was moved, seconded and voted to enact an ordinance entitled “2024 Amendments to the Town of Casco Zoning and Land Use Ordinance to modify the measuring methods within the Marijuana and Adult-Use Marijuana Uses” (See Addendum 2).

(FINAL VOTE 49 YES 12 NO 4 ABSTAIN)

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

A true copy Attest: _____, Penny Bean, Town Clerk