

**TOWN OF CASCO**  
**Annual Town Meeting Warrant**  
**June 5, 2024**  
***Fiscal Year 7/1/2024-6/30/2025***

To: Julie Koceika, Resident of the Town of Casco, in the County of Cumberland and the State of Maine.

**Greetings:** In the name of the State of Maine, you are required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Casco qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Crooked River Elementary School on Tuesday, the 11th day of June 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., then and there to act on Articles 1, and 2 as set out below as well as to warn said voters to meet at the Crooked River Elementary School, located at 1437 Poland Spring Road, on Wednesday, the 5th day of June 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the evening and there to act on Articles 3 through as set out below, to wit;

**Article 1.** To elect all necessary town officers by secret ballot. (30-A M.R.S.A., Section 2524).  
The polls for voting on Article 2 will be open at 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. on June 11, 2024.  
The polls are located at the Crooked River Elementary School at 1437 Poland Spring Road, Casco.

**Article 2.** To choose and elect all other town officers required by law to be chosen at such meeting.

**Article 3.** To choose a moderator to preside over said meeting.

**Article 4.** To see if the Town will vote to permit municipal administrators or staff, and elected State officials, who are not residents of Casco, to speak as appropriate when recognized by the moderator.

**Proposed FY 2024-2025 Operational Budget**

*The Selectboard Approved All Warrant Articles for Discussion at Town Meeting*

**Article 5.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$946,764 to fund  
**ADMINISTRATION.**

<b>Account</b>	<b>FY25 Proposed Amount</b>	<b>FY24 Approved</b>
Payroll	\$556,864	\$543,934
Services	\$153,200	\$156,100
Supplies/Equipment	\$ 35,000	\$ 38,000
Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 17,000	\$ 10,000
Training/Travel	\$ 15,400	\$ 11,600
Assessing	\$104,300	\$112,075
Legal Service	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000
Contingency	\$ 30,000	\$ 35,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$946,764</b>	<b>\$941,709</b>

**Article 6.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$143,437 to fund **CODE ENFORCEMENT**

	<b>FY25 Proposed Amount</b>	<b>FY24 Approved</b>
<b>Account</b>		
Code Enforcement	\$143,437	\$143,104
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$143,437</b>	<b>\$143,104</b>

**Article 7.** 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**

	<b>FY25 Proposed Amount</b>	<b>FY24 Approved</b>
<b>Account</b>		
Planning Board/ZBA	\$ 5,200	\$ 5,375
Planning Services	\$ 68,000	\$ 0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 73,200</b>	<b>\$ 5,375</b>

**Article 8.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$358,295 to fund **RECREATION, PARKS & BEACHES, FACILITIES, CEMETERIES, OPEN SPACE COMMISSION & VETERAN'S COMMITTEE.**

	<b>FY25 Proposed Amount</b>	<b>FY24 Approved</b>
<b>Account</b>		
Recreation	\$219,864	\$206,670
Parks & Beaches	\$ 14,000	\$ 13,600
Facilities-CCC, Access Building	\$107,831	\$ 97,100
Cemeteries	\$ 9,100	\$ 10,900
Open Space Commission	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,500
Veterans Committee	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$358,295</b>	<b>\$333,270</b>

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

	<b>FY25 Proposed Amount</b>	<b>FY24 Approved</b>
<b>Account</b>		
General Assistance	\$ 47,520	\$ 34,500
Home Health Visiting Nurse	\$ 2,300	\$ 4,000
Casco Public Library	\$ 91,200	\$ 88,348
Northern Light Health	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Through These Doors (Family Crisis)	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100
Tri County Counseling	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Opportunity Alliance	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Sebago Lakes Region Chamber	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,000

Lake Region Bus Service	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Life Flight	\$ 912	\$ 912
Crescent Lake Watershed	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000
Lake Monitoring Program	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,500
Thompson Lake Environ. Assoc.	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
Lake Environ. Assoc. Milfoil Project	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Pleasant Lake/Parker Pond Assoc.	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
Local Food Pantries	\$ 3,600	\$ 3,600
American Legion	\$ 1,000	\$ 500
Crooked River Snowmobile Club	\$ 2,000	\$ 0
Other	\$ 0	\$ 7,100
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$186,132</b>	<b>\$172,060</b>

**Article 10.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,258,354 to fund  
**FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT.**

<b>Account</b>	<b>FY25 Proposed Amount</b>	<b>FY24 Approved</b>
Payroll	\$935,115	\$917,482
Services	\$112,189	\$115,228
Supplies/Equipment	\$110,500	\$108,700
Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 79,550	\$ 73,250
Training/Travel	\$ 21,000	\$ 21,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,258,354</b>	<b>\$1,235,660</b>

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

<b>Account</b>	<b>FY25 Proposed Amount</b>	<b>FY24 Approved</b>
Animal Control	\$127,789	\$112,237
Emergency Management	\$ 5,150	\$ 6,890
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$132,939</b>	<b>\$119,127</b>

*(Note of Explanation: Animal Control is a shared, regional approach. The account reflects all money spent by the Town with the anticipated revenue based on the regional agreement.)*

**Article 12.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,031,949 to fund  
**PUBLIC WORKS/ROADS AND DAMS.**

	<b>FY25 Proposed Amount</b>	<b>FY24 Approved</b>
<b>Account</b>		
Payroll	\$166,589	\$131,227
Services	\$623,360	\$620,350
Supplies/Equipment	\$209,000	\$225,700
Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 20,300	\$ 14,000
Training/Travel	\$ 2,700	\$ 3,200
<b>Subtotal Public Works:</b>	<b>\$1,021,949</b>	<b>\$994,477</b>
Dams	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,100
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$1,031,949</b>	<b>\$999,577</b>

**Article 13.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$917,828 to fund  
**BENEFITS/INSURANCE AND UTILITIES.**

	<b>FY25 Proposed Amount</b>	<b>FY24 Approved</b>
<b>Account</b>		
Benefits& Insurance	\$817,328	\$741,637
Utilities	\$100,500	\$105,345
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$917,828</b>	<b>\$846,982</b>

**Article 14.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$470,660 to fund  
**TRANSFER STATION AND BULKY WASTE FACILITY.**

	<b>FY25 Proposed Amount</b>	<b>FY24 Approved</b>
<b>Account</b>		
Interlocal Agreement	\$375,880	\$376,973
Professional Services	\$ 94,780	\$ 0
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$470,660</b>	<b>\$376,973</b>

**Article 15.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$269,000 to fund  
**CONTRACTED LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICE** with Cumberland County Sheriff's Department.

	<b>FY25 Proposed Amount</b>	<b>FY24 Approved</b>
<b>Account</b>		
Law Enforcement	\$269,000	\$ 0

**Article 16.** To see if the Town will 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.

**Article 17.** To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$423,235 for debt services payments.

*\*\*If article 16 passes, the debt service needed to be raised is \$363,932\*\**

**Article 19.** To see if the Town will 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:

		<b>FY 25 Proposed Amount</b>	<b>FY24 Approved</b>
I.	Excise Tax	\$ 925,000	\$900,000
II.	Municipal Revenue Sharing	\$ 390,000	\$400,000
III.	Homestead Exemption Reimbursement	\$ 165,000	\$173,000
IV.	BETE Reimbursement	\$ 65,000	\$ 60,000
V.	Other Non-Property Taxes	\$ 723,742	\$704,392
	<b>Total ESTIMATED Non-Property Tax Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 2,268,742</b>	<b>\$2,237,392</b>

**Article 20.** To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 M.R.S.A. Section 505(2) will 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.

**Article 21.** 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 15 and that interest, at the rate of 8.5% per annum, shall be charged on all delinquent property taxes.

**Article 22.** 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%.

**Article 23.** To see if the town will vote 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.

**Article 24.** To see if the town will vote 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.

**Article 25.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to retain, sell or dispose of, by such means and upon such terms and conditions as the Select Board 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 Select Board'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 Select Board 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).

**Article 26.** To see if the Town will vote 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 Select Board that ownership of the property that is subject to the tax lien mortgage would be contrary to the Town's best interests.

**Article 27.** To see if the town will vote 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.

**Article 28.** To see if the Town will 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.

**Article 29.** To see if the Town will vote 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.

**Article 30.** To see if the Town will vote 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.

**Article 31.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board 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.

### **Proposed FY 2024-2025 Capital Improvement/Equipment Budget**

**Article 32.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$100,000 from the *Unassigned Funds* for updating and remodeling 9 Leach Hill Road into a Meeting House.

**Article 33.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$20,300 from *Unassigned Funds* for the purchase and replacement of a portion of the Fire Department portable radios.

**Article 34.** To see if the Town will vote 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.

**Article 35.** To see if the Town will vote 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.

**Article 36.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$396,000 for the FY 25 Road projects (that include ditching and paving of Glen Drive Road and portions of Quaker Ridge Road; & paving of Moose Run, Sunny Hill Road and New Road).

**Article 37.** 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.

### **Proposed FY 2024-2025 Ordinances**

**Article 38.** Shall an ordinance entitled "2024 Amendments to the Town of Casco Zoning and Land Use Ordinance to modify Flood Zones" be enacted? (See Addendum 1).

*(A copy of the proposed ordinance is available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk's Office; it will also be available at the Town Meeting).*

**Article 39.** Shall and 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” be enacted? (See Addendum 2).

*(A copy of the proposed ordinance is available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office; it will also be available at the Town Meeting).*

**Article 40.** Shall and ordinance entitled “2024 Amendments to the Town of Casco Zoning and Land Use Ordinance modify auxiliary dwelling units consistent with State mandates be enacted? (See Addendum 3).

*(A copy of the proposed ordinance is available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office; it will also be available at the Town Meeting).*

**Given under our hands this 14th day of May 2024 at Casco, Maine.**

Scott Avery, Selectboard Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Eugene Connolly, Selectboard Vice- Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Mary- Vienessa Fernandes, Selectboard Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Robert MacDonald, Selectboard Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Grant Plummer, Selectboard Member: \_\_\_\_\_

A true copy of the warrant,

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_,

Penny Bean, Town Clerk