TOWN WARRANT 2015

TO: Mary F. McDonald, citizen of the Town of Georgetown, Maine, GREETINGS:

You are hereby required in the name of the State of Maine to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Georgetown, Maine, qualified to vote in Town affairs, according to the Constitution and laws of this State, to assemble at Georgetown Central School, Georgetown Center, on **Tuesday, the ninth day of June, 2015, at 12pm through 8pm, and on Saturday, the thirteenth day of June, 2015, at 9am,** to act on the following articles:

Art. 1. To elect by ballot a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Art. 2. To elect by ballot a Town Clerk for a term ending at the closing of the Town books, June 30, 2016.

Art. 3. To elect by ballot a Selectman for a term ending at the 2018 Annual Town Meeting.

Art. 4. To elect by ballot a Treasurer for a term ending at the closing of the Town books, June 30, 2016.

Art. 5. To elect by ballot a Tax Collector for a term ending at the closing of the Town books, June 30, 2016.

Art. 6. To elect by ballot a Road Commissioner for a term ending at the 2016 Annual Town Meeting.

Art. 7. To elect by ballot a member of the School Committee for a term ending at the 2018 Annual Town Meeting.

Art. 8. To elect by ballot a member of the Town-Owned Property Management Board for a term ending at the 2018 Annual Town Meeting.

Art. 9. To elect by ballot a Cemetery District Trustee for a term ending at the 2018 Annual Town Meeting.

**Articles 1 through 9 will be voted on Tuesday, June 09, beginning at 12pm, with the remaining articles addressed on Saturday, June 13, beginning at 9am.**

Art. 10. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following: (A) in regard to collection of taxes: Taxes shall become due and payable sixty days from the date printed on the bill, and interest at the rate of seven percent per annum will be charged on all accounts not paid by the due date; and (B) in regard to abatement of taxes: Interest at the rate of three percent per annum will be applied to all accounts from the date the taxes were paid until the overpayment is repaid.

Art. 11. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the consent of the Board of Selectmen, to procure a temporary loan or loans in anticipation of taxes for the purpose of paying obligations of the Town, such loan or loans to be paid during the municipal year out of money raised by taxes during that municipal year.

Art. 12. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes on such terms as they deem advisable and to execute quitclaim deeds on the same.

Art. 13. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of Town owned personal property with a value of $2000 or less under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

Art. 14. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of the Selectmen to accept and expend such additional funds as various Town bodies may receive from government or private grants or similar block-funding gifts and donations, provided that funding does not trigger the expenditure of additional local funds not previously appropriated by the voters.

Art. 15. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal Treasurer, upon direction from the Board of Selectmen, to waive the foreclosure of a Tax Lien Mortgage by recording a Waiver of Foreclosure in the Registry of Deeds in which the Tax Lien Certificate is recorded, prior to the right of redemption expiring, pursuant to 36 MRSA § 944.

**ORDINANCES**

Art. 16. To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Floodplain Management Ordinance for the Town of Georgetown Maine, as required to remain covered by the National Flood Insurance Program and to repeal the Floodplain Management Ordinance for the Town of Georgetown Maine, as adopted on June 25, 1988 and amended lastly on June 12, 2010, effective July 16, 2015. (Copies of the ordinance are available at the Town Office and on the website.)

Art. 17. To see if the Town will vote to approve amendments to the Minimum Lot Size Ordinance for the Town of Georgetown, Maine. (Copies of the ordinance are available at the Town Office and on the website.)

Art. 18. To see if the Town will vote to approve amendments to the Subdivision Ordinance for the Town of Georgetown, Maine. (Copies of the ordinance are available at the Town Office and on the website.)

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

Art. 19. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the expenditure of funds to pay the following Town Officers’ salaries for the period from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, hereafter designated as the fiscal year 2015-16, and to appropriate the Town funds required: *2014-15 2015-16*

 First Selectman $ 4,000 $ 4,000

 Second Selectman 3,500 3,500

 Third Selectman 3,500 3,500

 Assistant to the Selectmen 28,055 28,897

 Bookkeeper 15,506 15,971

 Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector 8,141 8,385

 Registrar of Voters 150 150

 Tax Collector 12,878 13,264

 Town Clerk 4,293 4,422

 Town Clerk/Deputy Town Clerk fees 6,000 6,000

 Town-Owned Property Management Board 1,200 1,200

 Treasurer 4,119 4,243

 Emergency Management Director 250 250

 Vacation and sick pay annual 2,400 2,400

 Vacation and sick pay fund 7,300 7,300

 $ 101,292 $ 103,482

Art. 20. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying the following administrative expenses for the fiscal year 2015-16 and to appropriate the Town funds required: *2014-15 2015-16*

 Board of Appeals $ 1,050 $ 1,050

 Capital Expenses: Computer / Fire proof file 3,800 0

 Conservation Commission 2,970 3,570

 Election expense 1,500 1,750

 First Church Georgetown Center expenses 2,500 2,500

 First Church Georgetown Center reserve (current balance $28,729) 2,000 2,000

 Insurance—property and liability 23,000 25,000

 Insurance—workers’ compensation 6,000 6,000

 Interest on Tax Anticipation Note 500 500

 Maine Municipal Association 1,800 2,000

 Miscellaneous Town expenses 300 300

 Planning Board 700 550

 Professional Dues 250 250

 Property assessing 13,500 13,000

 Property assessing reserve (current balance $95,000) 5,000 2,500

 Property mapping update 2,000 2,000

 Selectmen’s contingency 3,000 3,000

 Social Security—Town share 16,000 16,000

 Street lights 2,800 2,800

 Street signs 250 400

 Tax collection expense 2,650 3,500

 Town Audit 8,500 8,500

 Town Counsel 10,000 7,500

 Town Office Equipment Reserve (current balance $3,790) 1,000 1,000

 Town Office expense 22,925 23,750

 Town Office repair/maintenance reserve (current balance $16,235) 3,000 3,000

 Town Report 4,000 4,000

 Unemployment compensation—Town share 50 50

 Water access reserve (current balance $14,000) 1,000 1,000

 $ 142,045 $ 137,470

**TOWN-OWNED PROPERTY MANAGEMENT BOARD**

Art. 21. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen and the Town-Owned Property Management Board to solicit and accept donations for wharf repairs and improvements.

Art. 22. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying the following property management expenses for the fiscal year 2015-16 and to appropriate the Town funds required: *2014-15 2015-16*

 Operating expenses

 Contingency $ 2,000 $ 2,000

 General operations

 Engineering Studies 0 500

 Float launch, haul, and store 3,000 3,500

 Miscellaneous (paint, dumpster, etc) 500 500

 Ordinance Enforcement 600 600

 Postage 100 50

 Printing and advertising 500 500

 Signage 350 500

 Submerged Land Lease 150 150

 Utilities 1,000 600

 Maintenance and repair

 Buildings

 Ice Cream / Bait building 4,600 2,000

 Lobster Pound 4,600 2,000

 Love Nest Snack Bar 200 2,000

 Wharf Electrical System Update 1,200 0

 Floats

 Commercial 1,500 500

 Recreational 1,500 250

 Hoist service 1,500 750

 Mowing 3,000 3,000

 Todd’s Landing ramp repair 1,200 1,500

 Tree Cutting 0 2,500

 Wharf Structural maint/repair 2,500 2,500

 Miscellaneous maintenance 1,000 1,000

 Capital expenses

 Old Stone Schoolhouse (roof repair) 6,000 1,000

 Float Improvements

 Recreational 5,500 6,000

 Miscellaneous capital expenses 1,000 0

 Float & Wharf Access reserve 0 2,500

 Parking lot improvements reserve (current balance $4,634) 0 0

 Todd’s Landing improvements reserve (current balance $3,150) 0 0

 Wharf rebuilding reserve (current balance $69,824) 20,000 20,000 $ 63,500 $ 56,400

Art. 23. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen and the Town-Owned Property Management Board to assess and collect repair costs from anyone whose vessel damages the Town Wharf at Five Islands.

# GEORGETOWN COMMON SCHOOLS

Education expenditure articles for the fiscal year 2015-16

Art. 24. To see what sum the Town will authorize the School Committee to expend for Regular Instruction. 2014-15 2015-16

##  The School Committee recommends: $ 1,024,027 $ 1,132,762

Art. 25. To see what sum the Town will authorize the School Committee to expend for Special Education. 2014-15 2015-16

 *The School Committee recommends: $ 334,050 $ 293,484*

Art. 26. To see what sum the Town will authorize the School Committee to expend for Other Instruction. 2014-15 2015-16

 *The School Committee recommends: $ 7,775 $ 6,814*

Art. 27. To see what sum the Town will authorize the School Committee to expend for Student and Staff Support. 2014-15 2015-16

 *The School Committee recommends: $ 174,190 $ 172,984*

Art. 28. To see what sum the Town will authorize the School Committee to expend for System Administration. 2014-15 2015-16

 *The School Committee recommends: $ 71,808 $ 72,189*

Art. 29. To see what sum the Town will authorize the School Committee to expend for School Administration. 2014-15 2015-16

 *The School Committee recommends: $ 155,539 $ 160,022*

Art. 30. To see what sum the Town will authorize the School Committee to expend for Transportation and Buses. 2014-15 2015-16

 *The School Committee recommends: $ 110,917 $ 147,600*

Art. 31. To see what sum the Town will authorize the School Committee to expend for Facilities

Maintenance. 2014-15 2015-16

 *The School Committee recommends: $ 174,681 $ 168,678*

Art 32. To see what sum the Town will authorize the School Committee to expend for Debt Service and Other Commitments. 2014-15 2015-16

 *The School Committee recommends $ 10,000 $ 10,000*

Art. 33. To see what sum the Town will authorize the School Committee to expend for All Other Expenditures. 2014-15 2015-16

 *The School Committee recommends $ 41,227 $ 38,500*

Art. 34. To see what sum the Town will authorize the School Committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016 from the Town’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, additional local funds for school purposes under 20-A MRSA § 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, State subsidy, and other receipts for the support of schools. 2014-15 2015-16

 *The School Committee recommends: $ 2,104,214 $ 2,203,033*

Art. 35. In addition to amounts approved in the preceding articles, shall the school committee be authorized to expend such other sums as may be received from federal or state grants or programs or other sources during the fiscal year for school purposes, provided that such grants, programs or other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated?

 *The School Committee recommends:* YES

Education revenue articles for the fiscal year 2015-16

Art. 36. To see what sum the Town will appropriate for the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act (School Committee recommends $1,225,884.16) and to see what sum the Town will raise as the Town’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with 20-A MRSA § 15688.

 2014-15 2015-16

 *The School Committee recommends:* $ 1,169,289.66 $ 1,181,517.95

*Explanation:* The Town’s contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount that the Town must raise in order to receive the full amount of State dollars.

Art. 37. Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate $813,313.00 in additional local funds, which exceeds the State Essential Programs and Services funding model by *$*747,856.00, as required to fund the budget recommended by the School Committee?

 *The School Committee recommends:* YES

The vote on this article must be by written ballot under State law.

The School Committee recommends these local funds to support the educational programs Georgetown voters have long endorsed, pointing out that EPS is not fully funded by the State for fiscal year 2015-16 and does not adequately address all educational programs. Last year the additional local amount raised was $736,804.00

*Explanation:* The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the Town’s local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the EPS Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment of non-state funded debt service that will help achieve the Town budget for educational programs.

Education reserve fund article for the fiscal year 2015-16

Art. 38. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for the capital reserve fund for renovations to the Georgetown Central School, to be expended on recommendation of the School Committee and approval by a majority vote of the Board of Selectmen (current balance $64,595) 2014-15 2015-16

 *The School Committee recommends: $* 7,500 *$* 7,500

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

Art. 39. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen and the officers and directors of the Georgetown Volunteer Fire Department Inc to solicit and accept donations, grants, and reimbursement claims and to transfer the funds thus raised to the Georgetown Volunteer Fire Department.

Art. 40. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to extend and continue the present contract with the Sagadahoc County Fire Association for mutual emergency assistance.

Art. 41. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying the following protection expenses for the fiscal year 2015-16 and to appropriate the Town and grant funds required: *2014-15 2015-16*

 Animal Control Officer $ 2,162 $ 2,156

 Lincoln County Animal Shelter 787 1,020

 Code Enforcement Officer/Local Plumbing Inspector

 Stipend 2,500 3,000

 Mileage 1,000 800

 Share of building permits and floodplain permits 3,200 3,450

 Training 200 200

 Plumbing Inspector’s share of plumbing permit fees 3,000 3,600

 State share of plumbing permit fees, septic fees 1,100 1,350

 Fire Department administration 1,000 500

 Fire Department advanced life support 8,500 8,500

 Fire Department ambulance and fire salaries 15,400 15,400

 Fire Department Firefighter 1 instructor / EMT training 2,500 2,500

 Fire Department Officers’ stipend 4,800 8,000

 Fire Department training / maint stipend 11,300 11,300

 Fire Department vehicle inspection 3,000 3,600

 Fire Department emergency vehicle reserve (current balance $122,963) 25,000 25,000

 Fire Department Five Islands fire house maintenance 1,250 1,750

 Fire Department Five Islands reserve fund (current balance $10,750) 250 1,000

 Fire Department purchase of Ambulance 60,000 0

 Harbormaster and moorings 8,375 10,075

 Harbor emergency reserve (current balance $28,473) 4,000 3,000

 Shellfish Conservation Committee 14,578 16,662

 $ 173,902 $ 122,863

# SANITATION

Art. 42. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying the following solid waste disposal expenses for the fiscal year 2015-16 and to appropriate the Town funds required: *2014-15 2015-16*

 Capital improvements $ 3,000 $ 1,500

 Capital equipment replacement reserve (current balance $34,800) 2,000 2,000

 Capital equipment (container) 10,000 10,000

 Contingency 2,000 2,000

 General operations 2,500 3,000

 Licensing Fees 400 450

 Phone / Utilities 1,000 1,200

 Safety Equipment 500 500

 Sick / Vacation Time 2,395 0

 Station Attendants 38,000 38,000

 Training 200 200

 Household hazardous waste disposal 2,500 2,500

 Maintenance and repairs 5,000 5,000

 Recycling removal 5,500 5,500

 Solid waste removal 85,000 85,000

 Universal hazardous waste disposal 200 200

 $ 160,195 $ 157,050

**HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES**

Art. 43. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying the following road expenses for the fiscal year 2015-16 and to appropriate the Town funds required: *2014-15 2015-16*

 Education and training $ 0 $ 500

 Road maintenance

 Culverts and ditching 17,750 0

 Paved Roads (ditching, patching, culverts) 24,000

 Gravel Roads (ditching, patching, culverts) 20,000

 General incidentals 14,500 0

 Line painting; grading 12,000 5,100

 Patching and sealing 43,100 0

 Tree trimming; mowing; signs 6,800 15,000

 Transfer to paving reserve (current balance $21,096) 21,096 0

 Road paving / reconstruction 160,000 190,000

 Road paving loan 130,000 76,500

 $ 405,246 $ 331,100

Art. 44. To see if the Town will vote to authorize spending $197,795 for snow removal for the fiscal year 2015-16 and to appropriate the Town funds required. Last year’s proposed sum was $211,559.

# RECREATION, HEALTH, AND HUMAN SERVICES

Art. 45. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying the following local service expenses for the fiscal year 2015-16 and to appropriate the Town funds required: *2014-15 2015-16*

 General assistance $ 8,000 $ 8,000

 Georgetown Community Center 7,500 7,500

 Recreation Committee 9,000 9,000

 Richards Library 2,850 2,850

 $ 27,350 $ 27,350

Art. 46. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying the following regional service expenses for the fiscal year 2015-16 and to appropriate the Town funds required: *2014-15 2015-16*

 Bath Area Food Bank $ 700 $ 700

 Bath Area Senior Citizens 800 800

 Big Brothers / Big Sisters 550 550

 Coastal Transportation 550 550

 Elmhurst Inc 800 0

 Greater Bath Elder Outreach Network 300 300

 Midcoast Maine Community Action 525 525

 New Hope for Women 500 0

 Patten Free Library 16,689 17,193

 Spectrum Generations 400 400

 Sweetser 991 1,000

 $ 22,805 $ 22,018

Note: The $17,193 for the Patten Free Library is based on our 2010 population of 1,042 multiplied by a per capita rate of $16.50. If the Bath City Council approves a lower per capita rate, the Board of Selectmen is authorized to recalculate the amount to be expended using that lower per capita rate.

**CEMETERY MAINTENANCE**

Art. 47. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying for the following cemetery expenses for the fiscal year 2015-16 and to appropriate the Town funds required: *2014-15 2015-16*

 Cemetery manager 250 250

 Maintenance and repair

 Flags and plaques 0 0

 Monument Repair 2,000 4,000

 Mowing, tree and brush trimming 4,878 4,878

 Surveying 1,500 1,500

 Capital Expense (boundary fence) 3,375 3,375

 $ 12,003 $ 14,003

**UNCLASSIFIED**

Art. 48. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying $23,781 for MacMahan Island for the fiscal year 2015-16 as authorized by law and to appropriate the Town funds required. This amount is a direct obligation of the Town. Last year’s amount was $22,439.

Art. 49. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying a sum now estimated at $904,021 to pay tax to Sagadahoc County and to appropriate the Town funds required. This amount is a direct obligation of the Town. Last year’s actual amount was $890,250.

Art. 50. To see what sum, not to exceed $250,000 the Town will vote to appropriate from undesignated fund balance to reduce the annual tax commitment.

Art. 51. To see if the Town will vote to bring forward the mandated actual unexpended balance in the fol-lowing account. The unexpended balance as of May 19, 2015 is shown.

  *2014-15 2015-16*

 Common School Funds $ 100,000 $ 110,000

Art. 52.To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of $691,930. set for the Town by the State in the event that the municipal budget approved at Town Meeting will result in a tax commitment greater than that property tax levy limit.

Note: The vote on this article must be by written ballot under State law. The Board of Selectmen commend members of the Financial Advisory Committee and all Town boards and committees for their hard work in trimming the budget as far as possible. They strongly urge a Yes vote on this article.

The Registrar of Voters will be at the Georgetown Town Office on Tuesday, the ninth day of June, 2015, at eleven o’clock in the forenoon to correct the list of voters.

You are hereby required to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies in public places in the Town of Georgetown at least seven days before the time of this meeting.

Given under our hands this twenty sixth day of May, 2015:

 Dolores J. Pinette

 William F. Plummer, IV

 Geoffrey W. Birdsall

 Selectmen, Town of Georgetown

Attest:

 Catherine L. Collins Mary F. McDonald

 Town Clerk, Town of Georgetown Citizen of Georgetown

# Officer’s Return

STATE OF MAINE

County of Sagadahoc, s.s.

I certify that I have notified the voters of Georgetown of the time and place of the Annual Town Meeting by posting attested copies of this warrant in conspicuous public places in the Town of Georgetown, specifically at

 the Georgetown Community Center, Five Islands, at 12:00 pm

 the Georgetown Country Store, Georgetown Center, at 12:40pm

 the Georgetown Town Office, Georgetown Center, at 10:55 am

 the Town Wharf, Five Islands, at 3:45pm

 the US Post Office, Georgetown Center at 12:35pm

on May 26, 2015, which is more than seven days prior to the meeting.

 Mary F. McDonald Date