

SELECT BOARD, TOWN OF GEORGETOWN

Agenda for Tuesday, May 26, 2026

**MEETING TO START IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE TOWN'S ORDINANCE HEARINGS.
THOSE COMMENCE @ 6:30pm IN THE GCS GYMNASIUM.**

Hybrid meeting held via ZOOM for public and at the Town Office for SB Members who wish.

Please email gtwnme@hotmail.com for the ZOOM login info.

*indicates copy provided to Select Board

***INDICATES THE NEED FOR A MOTION TO APPROVE**

Call to order:

Moments of Silence & Celebrations

Public comment:

Items to be added to the agenda (if approved by chair and board):

Scheduled appointments:

- Board of Assessors – June 9th Meeting

Minutes:

- Minutes of May 12******
- Minutes of May 21******

Continuing Items:

- Receipts for pumping:
- Maine Waste Discharge License *renewal* / transfer applications:
- Maine Waste Discharge License *approvals*:
- PBR / NRPA :
 - Bareneck Island

Review:

Correspondence:

- DMR – Warning Letter re: Shellfish Fees*
- Letter from Pam Gunnell re: Short Term Rentals*
- Updated Transfer Station Brochure*
- Election Information from the Town Clerk*

Board Member / Committee Updates:

- Ms. Eee:
- Ms. Goodwin:
- Ms. Gravino:

Town Administrator Update

Old Business:

- Memorandums of Understanding
 - School / Town
 - Tri Party (Recreation, Conservation, and TOPMB)
 - Conservation and Community Center
 - Conservation and School
- Comprehensive Plan Check In

New Business:

- Acceptance of Assessing Agent’s Proposal*
- Approval of the Town Warrant*
- Designation of any Select Board Positions on Articles*
- Appointment of Angela “Angie” Mead as Town Clerk & Tax Collector*
- Town Office Closure – Election Day – June 9th*

Items For Signature:

- Town Warrant

Public comment:

Executive Session:

Adjournment:

UPCOMING MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND DATES TO REMEMBER...

NOTE: an asterisk (*) indicates Zoom available if requested

Town Office closed, May 25 – In Observation of Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 26 – Town Ordinance Hearing – 6:30pm @ GCS

Tuesday, May 26 – Select Board – Immediately following the Ordinance Hearing

Wednesday, May 27 – Recreation Committee– 6:30pm - HYBRID

Thursday, May 28 – Board of Appeals Public Hearing – 7pm – HYBIRD

Monday, June 1 – Candidates’ Night – 6:30pm ZOOM

Tuesday, June 2 – Recreation Committee – 6pm – HYBRID

Wednesday, June 3 – Planning Board – 7pm – HYBIRD

Thursday, June 4th – Shellfish Committee – 4pm – HYBRID*

Monday, June 8 – Conservation Commission – 6pm – ZOOM

Monday, June 8 – Fire Department Business Meeting – 7pm – IN PESON

Tuesday, June 9 – Election Day

Tuesday, June 9 – Select Board Meeting – 6:30pm - HYBRID

Thursday, June 11 – Solid Waste Management Committee – 7pm ZOOM

Saturday, June 13 – Annual Town Meeting

Tuesday, June 16 – Town Owned Property Management Board – 4pm – HYBRID*

Wednesday, June 17 – School Committee – 5pm - HYBRID

Wednesday, June 17 – Planning Board – 7pm – HYBRID

Tuesday, June 23 – Select Board – 6:30pm – HYBRID



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES
MARINE RESOURCES LABORATORY
P.O. BOX 8, 194 MCKOWN POINT RD
W. BOOTHBAY HARBOR, MAINE
04575-0008

CARL J. WILSON
COMMISSIONER

May 20th, 2026

Angela Mead, Town Clerk
P.O. Box 436
Georgetown, ME 04548-0436

Re: Warning Letter, 2025 Shellfish License Fee's

Dear Ms. Mead,

According to the 2025 Budget Worksheet, Georgetown sold municipal shellfish licenses outside of the allocation approval the Department sent on February 10th, 2026. The town's recreational license fees were increased, but an updated allocation request with the new fee schedule was not sent to the Department. According to DMR Regulations Chapter 7, Section 7.30 (1) requires that the town "establish annually with approval from the Department at least 30 days prior to the period of issuance the number, type, and fees of shellfish harvesting licenses to be issued using a Department-approved form". While your town submitted an allocation request for 2026, the approved allocations were not followed.

Please ensure all future allocations are followed exactly according to what was requested by the town and approved by the Department. If fee changes are approved by the town selectboard after the allocation has been submitted, please re-submit a new allocation request within 30 days of the license sale date. If we do not receive an updated request, license fees revert to what was originally approved by the department. You can find the Municipal Shellfish License Allocation Application on the Form's page of the DMR website: <https://www.maine.gov/dmr/fisheries/shellfish/municipal-shellfish-management-program/dmr-municipal-shellfish-management-forms>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Benjamin Wahle'.

Benjamin Wahle, Nearshore Marine Resource Program Supervisor

cc: Katie Tilton, Marine Resource Scientist I

May 19, 2025

Dear Selectboard Members,

I am writing this now that the dust has settled somewhat from the decision to stop the proposed STR ordinance. This is my personal perspective as one who was on the Planning Board during the time the STR ordinance was researched and drafted and who was in favor of such an ordinance. Although this is a critique of what happened, it is not intended to alienate anyone.

On April 14th, the selectboard, with no public comment, made the decision to table the STR ordinance and not place it on the June town warrant. At the same meeting, the selectboard cancelled an STR ordinance informational night scheduled for April 28th. These decisions came one week after a selectboard meeting where a group of people spoke in opposition to the ordinance and approximately two weeks after the selectboard received many letters opposing the ordinance. To this day, the Planning Board and the community have never received any information from the selectboard about whether they plan to revisit the STR ordinance.

My overarching concern is the selectboard's decision to table the ordinance so quickly and halt the planned public review process. Had the community informational night gone forward, many misconceptions about the ordinance would have been corrected.

Furthermore, had the select board stayed the course, a more balanced community conversation would have occurred because a much wider range of voices would have been heard. Halting the review of the ordinance midstream, made it certain that only some voices were heard.

The opposition to the ordinance came in a short period of time so it seemed intense. It also came largely from those with direct financial ties to STRs. This is not intended as a criticism, but rather an observation that STR owners have a shared interest and, therefore, were able to organize quickly. In contrast, community members who may have supported the ordinance did not represent a similarly identifiable group, and more time may have allowed those opinions to surface. It is noteworthy that the STR survey had an impressive

response rate and showed that a majority of citizens were in favor of some type of STR regulation.

The development of the STR ordinance by the Planning Board was a deliberate process over the last 16 months with direction from the select board at each step along the way. First, writing a town wide survey about STRs and compiling that data. Second, a lengthy review and comparison of STR ordinances from other towns in Maine. And last, the rather demanding process of drafting the ordinance itself. All of this required many extra meetings of the Planning Board to accomplish. At any time, the selectboard could have changed the scope of the ordinance or stopped it, but they did not.

I personally would not have been troubled at all, if the ordinance had ultimately been voted down at town meeting because that outcome would have reflected a full community-wide deliberation. Unfortunately, the decision to prematurely halt the public review denied the town the opportunity to fully engage in and vote on an important policy issue.

I look forward to the upcoming joint meeting of the Selectboard and Planning Board where we can discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Pam Gunnell

What is NOT accepted at the TS?

The TS is a Solid Waste Facility.

We cannot accept liquids of any kind.

A few drops of cooking oil in the bottom of a container are fine, but a gallon of cooking oil is not acceptable.

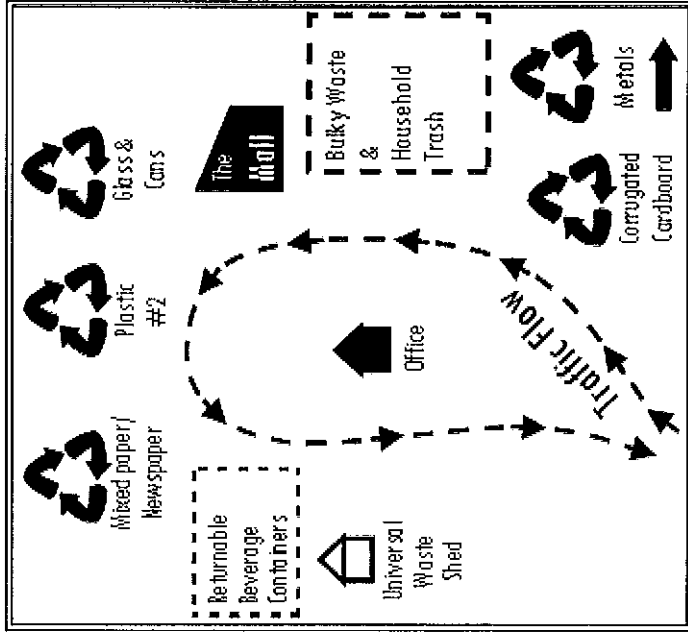
Please ask an attendant for a current list of places that accept these items:

- Corrosive, toxic, or flammable materials such as fuels, motor oil, oil-based paint, paint thinner, aerosol paint, pesticides, pool chemicals, or solvents.
 - All liquid paints: latex, primers, stains, sealers, clear coatings such as shellac or varnish
 - Visit PaintCare.org for information on disposal options
 - Unexploded fireworks or ammunition
 - Refrigerators/dehumidifiers (because they contain refrigerants such as Freon or CFCs)
 - Furniture containing springs; mattresses, box springs, futons, upholstered chairs, sofas, or seat cushions
 - Drywall
 - Tires
 - Lead Acid Batteries (car, boat, lawn tractor)
 - Brush, leaves, tree waste, or fireplace ash
 - Animal carcasses
- Items we accept as trash, but can be recycled elsewhere
- Styrofoam packing peanuts
 - Asphalt shingles
 - Plastic bags - collection bins at large stores

Household Hazardous Waste

HHW Collection days typically occur in Bath (May) and Brunswick (October). Preregistration is required. Please, ask an attendant for details or other options. Hazardous waste from businesses is not accepted at Household Hazardous Waste collection events. Please contact the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Hazardous Waste Staff at (207) 287-7688 or visit Maine.gov for information about rules for Small Quantity Hazardous Waste Generators.

Transfer Station Map



The TS is funded by Georgetown taxpayers and is for use by Georgetown residents only. Permit sticker required.

Vehicles with trailers whose combined length exceeds 34 feet cannot be accommodated at the Bulky Waste and Household Waste containers. For the safety of your fellow residents, please consider diverting to The Bath Landfill or Casella in West Bath because they are designed to handle large vehicles and trailers.

The Bath Landfill will, for a fee, accept many of the items the Georgetown Transfer Station cannot accept.
Hours: Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - 4 PM
Located on Detritus Drive at the north end of High Street in Bath. 207-443-8356

Casella West Bath ME Transfer Station will, for a fee, accept many items at 64 Arthur J Reno Sr Rd West Bath off State Road.

Georgetown Transfer Station and Recycling Center



The Georgetown Transfer Station
64 Bay Point RD Georgetown, ME 04548
207-371-2148 (During hours of operation)
<http://www.georgetownme.com>

The Transfer Station (TS) is open on Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday, Memorial Day, and Labor Day.

Hours of operation: 9 am to 4 pm (compactor closes 3:50pm)
At the discretion of the TS Manager the TS may be closed due to emergency or weather events. If Georgetown Schools are closed it is likely the TS will also be closed.

A current (green) TS permit sticker is required for entry. Permit stickers are available at the Town Office on request with proof of residence. Permit stickers must be displayed on vehicles or in their windows to gain access to the Transfer Station. Town Office 207-371-2820.

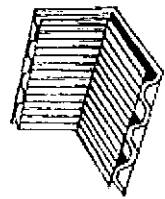
Unauthorized entry or use of the Transfer Station outside of the regular posted hours of operation shall constitute Trespass. Security cameras are in use.

No waste generated outside Georgetown will be accepted.

Effective March 2026

What CAN be recycled in Georgetown? Ask an attendant if you have questions or need assistance

Corrugated Cardboard Container



- Flattened corrugated cardboard boxes
- Brown paper bags

Corrugated cardboard is a high value commodity. Please help preserve that value by tearing off oil-soaked sections of pizza boxes.

NO non-corrugated cardboard, NO Styrofoam, NO plastic, NO bags, or other packing materials

Metals Area Please speak to an attendant before driving down to the metal pile.

For safety's sake do not throw metal items across the bulky container into the metal pile.

- Items with engines must be completely empty of oil and gas
- Appliances with exceptions. NO refrigerators or dehumidifiers because they contain refrigerants such as Freon or CFCs. Ask an attendant about proper disposal of items containing refrigerants
- Small metal auto parts, strapping, window frames, screens, satellite dishes, wire, lawn furniture
- Wire lobster traps. Please remove bricks and nets, then crush the trap
- EMPTY and DRY metal paint cans or spray cans
- Please remove as much non-metal material from items before putting them in the metal pile (e.g. vinyl or web straps on a folding chair)

Cans - place cans & clean aluminum foil in the barrel labeled tin cans

Glass - separate into barrels labeled for clear, green, or other glass. Please discard other colors.

NO Pyrex, broken glass, windows, or safety glass

Please rinse all cans, glass & plastic

Plastics - Please refer to container labels for details.

Place your plastics in the appropriate container. Look for the PET symbol on each item.



Plastics are to be separated into:

- #2 colored
 - #2 translucent or neutral (no color, see through)
 - Large rigid plastic (seasonal)
*NO Styrofoam, NO foam meat trays,
NO plastic bags even if it has a PET number
NO returnables*
- Please see an attendant regarding seasonal collection of large rigid plastic toys, buckets, and bins.

Mixed Paper and Newspaper Container

- White or colored paper, magazines, catalogs, flyers, folders, brochures, calendars, junk mail, and envelopes with plastic windows
- Non-corrugated cardboard such as cereal boxes, egg cartons, and pasta boxes with plastic windows
- Newsprint and all inserts included within a newspaper
- Shredded paper CONTAINED in a PAPER bag
- Brown paper bags
- Clean waxed cartons (juice, milk, or ice cream)
- Some books (when in doubt ask an attendant)

NO plastic bags, plastic wrap, hot beverage cups, Tyvek, aluminumized bags/wrappers, glitter, ribbon, envelopes lined with bubble wrap, or plastic lined or coated bags or boxes.

Food waste and plastic or wax coatings or linings contaminate the recyclables and lower their value. Please ask!

Tips: Pre-sort recyclables. This will speed things up at the IS

Compost kitchen waste! This material is heavy and expensive to discard. Your garden will reward you, too.
<https://www.cityofbathmaine.gov/composting>

Universal Waste Shed

Universal Waste (UW) must be handled properly by an attendant.

Universal Waste includes:

- Electronic devices such as computers, televisions, stereo equipment, printers, DVD/VHS players
- fluorescent bulbs and CFLs
- PCB ballasts from older fluorescent fixtures
- Mercury-added devices such as thermostats or thermometers
- Household batteries
 - rechargeable, single use lithium, or button
 - alkaline or heavy-duty batteries

Please give Universal Waste to an attendant.

Recycling in Georgetown

Why recycle? It costs less!

Recycling saves you, the taxpayer, money. It costs at least 4 times more to send recyclable waste to the landfill than it does to send it to a recycling facility.

Georgetown pays one flat fee per year for all our recyclables. The annual fee for one year of recycling is less than what we pay each month to send our trash to the Bath landfill. When you throw out recyclable materials with your household waste you are costing yourself, and your fellow taxpayers, money.

Reuse It! Shop the Georgetown Mall

Satisfaction guaranteed or twice your garbage back!

You can leave, or take, reusable goods that are in good working order such as furniture, tools, clothes, books, toys, houseware, flatware, dishes, and sewing, hobby, or craft materials.

Please respect the Mall. Keep it safe for children! NO food, liquids, flammables, hazardous/toxic chemicals, electronic devices, light bulbs, or sharp objects

JUNE 9, 2026, PRIMARY/MUNICIPAL ELECTION INFO TOWN OF GEORGETOWN

When: Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Time: 8 AM to 8PM

Where: 52 Bay Point Road (School Gym)

Semi-Open Primary

Maine law allows **Unenrolled registered** voters – those who have chosen not to enroll in a party – to select a party primary to vote in without enrolling in that party.

- Unenrolled voters may only vote in one party's primary.
- Voters enrolled in a party may only vote that party's primary ballot.
- **There are no Green Independent or Libertarian candidates. Voters enrolled as a Green Independent or Libertarian are not permitted to select another party's ballot.**
- If you are already enrolled as a Democrat, Green Independent, Libertarian, or Republican, and wish to change your party, the last day to switch prior to the election is Tuesday, May 26, 2026. You must remain in that party for at least 3 months. Contact Registrar Angela Mead if you want to change your party enrollment.

Absentee Ballots

Absentee voting is safe, secure, and convenient. For the June 9th Primary Election **absentee ballots will be available beginning May 11th through June 4th**. You can request a ballot or vote early in one of the following ways.

- Complete an online request by going <https://absenteeballotrequest.sos.maine.gov>
 - Please remember to select BOTH the state and municipal ballot.
- Call 371-2820 to request a ballot. The Town Clerk will fill out your application over the phone. If you get a message, leave your name and phone number and the Town Clerk will return your call. The application must be completed before a ballot can be mailed to you.
- Come to the Town Office and either vote in person or take your ballots to complete and return. Any questions, call or email grgtwnclerk@yahoo.com.

The absentee ballot Drop Box at the Town Office will be available beginning the week of May 11. The drop box is a secure and convenient way to submit your ballot and requires no postage.



TOWN WARRANT 2026

TO: Robert Trabona, 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, 2026 at 8 o'clock in the forenoon through 8 o'clock in the evening and again on Saturday, the thirteenth day of June, 2026 beginning at 9 o'clock in the forenoon**, 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 Select Board Member for a term ending at the 2029 Annual Town Meeting.
- Art. 3. To elect by ballot a member of the School Committee for a term ending at the 2029 Annual Town Meeting.
- Art. 4. To elect by ballot a member of the Town-Owned Property Management Board for a term ending at the 2029 Annual Town Meeting.
- Art. 5. To elect by ballot a Cemetery District Trustee for a term ending at the 2029 Annual Town Meeting.

Articles 1 through 5 will be voted on Tuesday, June 9, between 8am and 8pm, with the remaining articles addressed on Saturday, June 13, beginning at 9 o'clock in the forenoon.

Art. 6. 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 and a half (7.5) 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 four (4) percent per annum will be applied to all accounts from the date the taxes were paid until the overpayment is repaid.

Art. 7. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer, with the consent of the Select Board, 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. 8. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board, 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 in accordance with applicable law, and to execute quitclaim deeds on the same.

Art. 9. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of Town owned personal property valued at \$2,000 or less under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

Art. 10. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board 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. 11. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal Treasurer, upon direction from the Select Board, 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 MRS § 944.

Art. 12. To see if the Town will vote to use anticipated revenues, regardless of source, except as prohibited by law, to reduce the mil rate.

Art. 13. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to appropriate from Undesignated Fund Balance an amount not to exceed \$25,000 to meet unanticipated expenses and emergencies that may occur during the next fiscal year.

Art. 14. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of any unexpended funds, budgeted for the purpose of Employee Health Benefits, at the end of FY 2026-27 to the Health Benefits Reserve Fund. (The Health Benefits Reserve fund balance is estimated to be \$21,722 as of June 30, 2026).

Art. 15. ADVISORY ARTICLE – To see if the Town shall direct the Select Board to develop an Ordinance related to EMS billing.

CITIZEN PETITION

Art. 16. To see if the Town shall vote to expand the number of current elected Select Board members from 3 to a total of 5 with the election of the additional 2 members to occur as soon as is legally possible.

ORDINANCE CHANGES

Art. 17. Shall amendments to the Building and Demolition Permit Ordinance be enacted? (Copies of the ordinance are available at the Town Office and on the website.)

Art. 18. Shall amendments to the Minimum Lot Size Ordinance be enacted? (Copies of the ordinance are available at the Town Office and on the website.)

Art. 19. Shall amendments to the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance be enacted? (Copies of the ordinance are available at the Town Office and on the website.)

Art. 20. Shall amendments to the Solar Energy Ordinance be enacted? (Copies of the ordinance are available at the Town Office and on the website.)

Art. 21. Shall amendments to the Subdivision Ordinance be enacted? (Copies of the ordinance are available at the Town Office and on the website.)



PROPOSED NEW ORDINANCE

Art. 22. Shall an Ordinance Declaring Georgetown a Working Waterfront Community be enacted? (Copies of the ordinance are available at the Town Office and on the website.)

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Art. 23. 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, 2026 to June 30, 2027, hereafter designated as the fiscal year 2026-27, and to appropriate the Town funds required:

	2025-26	2026-27
Select Board Member, Chair	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Select Board Member (2)	8,000	8,000
Town Administrator	64,000	65,920
Finance Director	71,400	73,542
Office Assistant / Deputy	20,000	20,600
Registrar of Voters	300	300
Tax Collector	35,700	36,771
Town Clerk	15,300	15,759
Town-Owned Property Management Board (3)	1,500	1,500

Emergency Management Director	2,800	2,876
Merit Increase	0	9,211
Vacation and sick pay annual	4,000	4,000
Vacation and sick pay fund	<u>26,749</u>	<u>24,590</u>
	\$ 254,749	\$ 268,069

Art. 24. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying the following administrative expenses for the fiscal year 2026-27 and to appropriate the Town funds required:

	2025-26	2026-27
Board of Appeals	\$ 700	\$ 700
Conservation Commission	4,600	4,100
Planning Board	1,450	500
Streetlights / Signs	3,450	3,750
Town Office expense	39,356	49,713
General Government	<u>249,279</u>	<u>323,479</u>
	\$298,835	\$382,242*

*This includes \$27,500 in reserve fund additions

TOWN-OWNED PROPERTY MANAGEMENT BOARD

Art. 25. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board and the Town-Owned Property Management Board to solicit and accept donations for wharf repairs and improvements.

Art. 26. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying the following property management expenses for the fiscal year 2026-27 and to appropriate the Town funds required:

	2025-26	2026-27
TOPMB Operations	\$ 44,100	\$ 50,950*

*This includes \$29,000 in reserve fund additions

Art. 27. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board 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

ARTICLES 28 THROUGH 36 AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURES IN COST CENTER CATEGORIES

Art. 28. Regular Instruction: To see if the Georgetown School Department will be authorized to expend \$1,596,179 for Regular Instruction.

*The School Committee recommends YES.
For 2025-26, \$1,520,532 was authorized.*

Art. 29. Special Education: To see if the Georgetown School Department will be authorized to expend \$436,540 for Special Education Instruction.

The School Committee recommends YES.

For 2025-26, \$377,750 was authorized.

- Art. 30. Other Instruction: To see if the Georgetown School Department will be authorized to expend \$4,185 for Other Instruction.

*The School Committee recommends YES.
For 2025-26, \$8,436 was authorized.*

- Art. 31. Student and Staff Support: To see if the Georgetown School Department will be authorized to expend \$91,406 for Student and Staff Support.

*The School Committee recommends YES.
For 2025-26, \$86,652 was authorized.*

- Art. 32. System Administration: To see if the Georgetown School Department will be authorized to expend \$134,751 for System Administration.

*The School Committee recommends YES.
For 2025-26, \$120,568 was authorized.*

- Art. 33. School Administration: To see if the Georgetown School Department will be authorized to expend \$228,157 for School Administration.

*The School Committee recommends YES.
For 2025-26, \$191,443 was authorized.*

- Art. 34. Transportation and Buses: To see if the Georgetown School Department will be authorized to expend \$193,157 for Transportation and Buses.

*The School Committee recommends YES.
For 2025-26, \$206,748 was authorized.*

- Art. 35. Facilities and Maintenance: To see if the Georgetown School Department will be authorized to expend \$261,794 for Facilities and Maintenance.

*The School Committee recommends YES.
For 2025-26, \$247,957 was authorized.*

- Art. 36. All Other Expenditures: To see if the Georgetown School Department will be authorized to expend \$15,000 for All Other Expenditures.

*The School Committee recommends YES.
For 2025-26, \$15,000 was authorized.*



ARTICLES 37 AND 38 RAISE FUNDS FOR THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

- Art. 37. State/Local EPS Funding Allocation: To see if the Town of Georgetown will appropriate \$1,594,221.45 for the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, and to see if the Town of Georgetown will raise \$1,455,489.07 as the municipality'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 the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688.

The School Committee recommends YES.

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 and assess in order to receive the full amount of state dollars.

- Art. 38. Additional Local Funds: (Written ballot required). To see if the Town of Georgetown will raise and appropriate \$1,254,268.55 in additional local funds for purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-

A, Section 15690, which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$1,239,268.55.

The School Committee recommends YES.

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

The School Committee gives the following reasons for exceeding the State's Essential Programs and Services funding model by \$1,239,268.55: costs of maintaining student-teacher ratios; costs of special education programming; costs of extra-curricular and co-curricular programs; transportation costs; repairs and maintenance to the school building.

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 Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment of non-state-funded debt service that will help achieve the Town's budget for educational programs.

ARTICLE 39 SUMMARIZES THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

Art. 39. Total School Budget Summary: To see if the Town will authorize the School Committee to expend \$2,961,169 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, 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, local funds for non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy, and other receipts for the support of schools.

The School Committee recommends YES.

ARTICLE 40 IS THE SCHOOL FACILITIES RESERVE FUND ARTICLE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-27

Art. 40. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to 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 Select Board (current balance \$38,197)

The School Committee and Select Board recommend:

	2025-26	2026-27
	\$ 7,500	\$10,000

ARTICLES 41 THROUGH 44 PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SCHOOL AUTHORIZATIONS

Art. 41. Expenditures of Grants and Other Receipts: In addition to the 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, and other sources do not require the expenditure of other funds not previously appropriated?

The School Committee recommends YES.

Art. 42. Use of Additional State Subsidy: In the event that the Town of Georgetown receives more state education subsidy than the amount included in its 2026-2027 budget, shall the School Committee be authorized use the additional subsidy amount to increase expenditures for school purposes in cost centers categories approved by the School Committee?

The School Committee recommends YES.

Art. 43. Student Expense Reserve: Shall the School Committee be authorized to expend in its discretion from the Student Expense Reserve (current balance: \$150,000) during the 2026-2027 fiscal year to cover unanticipated and unappropriated expenses related to student education (examples of authorized expenditures include: tuition, transportation, staff and/or related expenses)?

Note: Expenditures from the Student Expense Reserve require approval by a majority of each of the Georgetown School Committee and the Georgetown Select Board. Approval of this article does not increase the funding request by the school department.

The School Committee recommends YES.

Art. 44. Cost Center Budget Transfers: Shall the School Committee be authorized to transfer amounts exceeding 5% of the total appropriation for any cost center to another cost center or among other cost centers for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, subject to approval of the Georgetown Select Board?

Explanation: This article provides the school department flexibility to utilize funds from the entire taxpayer-approved budget before needing to access funds in any reserve account and eliminate the need for special town meetings to increase appropriations in expenditure lines. Approval of this article does not affect the amount of taxes being levied.

The School Committee recommends YES.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Art. 45. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board 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. 46. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to extend and continue the present contract with the Sagadahoc County Fire Association for mutual emergency assistance.

Art. 47. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying the following protection expenses for the fiscal year 2026-27 and to appropriate the Town and grant funds required:

	2025-26	2026-27
Animal Control	\$ 4,559	\$ 5,117
Code Enforcement Officer/Local Plumbing Inspector	38,900	39,521
Volunteer Fire Department	311,870	335,119
Harbormaster and moorings	12,908	19,550
Shellfish Conservation Committee	<u>25,570</u>	<u>31,450</u>
	\$ 393,807	\$ 429,807*



**This includes \$97,500 in reserve fund additions.*

SANITATION

Art. 48. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying the following solid waste disposal expenses for the fiscal year 2026-27 and to appropriate the Town funds required:

	2025-26	2026-27
Transfer Station Operations	\$ 246,190	\$ 252,747*

**This includes 6,000 in reserve fund additions.*

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES

Art. 49. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying the following road expenses for the fiscal year 2026-27 and to appropriate the Town funds required:

	2025-26	2026-27
Town Road Operating Expenses	\$ 143,000	\$156,000
Town Road Paving	402,000	260,000
Transfer to paving reserve (current balance \$596,096)	<u>75,000</u>	<u>75,000</u>

\$ 620,000 \$491,000

Art. 50. To see if the Town will vote to authorize spending \$390,600 for snow removal for the fiscal year 2026-27 and to appropriate the Town funds required. Last year's sum was \$367,600.

RECREATION, HEALTH, AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Art. 51. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying the following local service expenses for the fiscal year 2026-27 and to appropriate the Town funds required:

	2025-26	2026-27
General assistance	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000
Georgetown Community Center	10,000	10,000
Recreation Committee	6,050	6,450
Richards Library	<u>1,500</u>	<u>1,500</u>
	\$ 25,550	\$ 25,950

Art. 52. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying the following regional service expenses for the fiscal year 2026-27 and to appropriate the Town funds required:

	2025-26	2026-27
Bath Area Senior Activity Center	\$ 500	\$ 600
Bath Area Food Bank	1000	1,000
Bath Area YMCA	0	500
Big Brothers / Big Sisters	250	250
Maine Public	100	100
MidCoast Maine Community Action	600	600
New Hope MidCoast	0	465
Oasis Free Clinic	400	500
Patten Free Library	24,659	27,625
Spectrum Generations	500	496
Sweetser	0	1200
Tedford Shelter	<u>500</u>	<u>1000</u>
	\$ 28,509	\$ 34,336



CEMETERY MAINTENANCE

Art. 53. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying for the following cemetery expenses for the fiscal year 2026-27 and to appropriate the Town funds required:

	2025-26	2026-27
Cemetery Maintenance and Repair	\$ 33,650	\$ 31,210

UNCLASSIFIED

Art. 54. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying \$38,796 for MacMahan Island for the fiscal year 2026-27 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 \$36,960.

Art. 56. To see if the Town will vote to authorize paying a sum now estimated at \$1,535,767 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

\$1,445,744.

Art. 57. To see if the Town will vote to authorize usage of funds from undesignated fund balance, not to exceed \$250,000 to reduce the annual tax commitment.

The Registrar of Voters will be at the Georgetown Town Office on Tuesday, the ninth day of June, at eight o'clock in the forenoon and again on Saturday, the thirteenth day of June, at nine 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, 2026:

Aria Ee

Katharine Goodwin

Katharine Gravino

Select Board, Town of Georgetown

Attest: _____

Angela Mead, Town Clerk

Robert Trabona, Citizen

 **DRAFT**

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

the Town Wharf, Five Islands, at

the Georgetown General Store, Georgetown Center, at

the Georgetown Town Office, Georgetown Center, at

the US Post Office, Georgetown Center at

on _____, which is more than seven days prior to the meeting.

Robert Trabona

Date

 **DRAFT**

William E. Van Tuinen
Tax Assessment Services
1049 East Madison Road
Madison, Maine 04950
Telephone and Fax 207-474-8866
E-mail bvt12851@gmail.com

May 18, 2026

Mr. Tyler Washburn
Administrative Assistant
Town of Georgetown
Town Office
P.O. Box 436
Georgetown, Maine 04548

Re: Proposal for Assessment Services for Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027

Dear Mr. Washburn:

I propose to perform tax assessment services for Georgetown for the next fiscal year for an amount not to exceed \$25,000.

This price excludes tax appeal work that goes beyond the jurisdiction of the Town, such as the County Board of Property Tax Review, the State Board of Property Tax Review, or appeals to the courts.

It also excludes boat transportation, if needed, to any islands. If that is needed, it will be provided by the Town or will be billed as an extra item.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Yours truly,

William Van Tuinen

William Van Tuinen

Select Board Size: Information for Georgetown

This summary outlines practical considerations as voters consider whether the Georgetown Select Board should remain at 3 members or expand to 5. In weighing the question, residents may wish to consider representation, efficiency, continuity, accountability, quorum needs, the availability of qualified candidates, and how the town's current form of government functions in practice.

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TEXT OF THE CITIZEN PETITION APPEARING ON TOWN WARRANT

To see if the Town shall vote to expand the number of current elected Select Board members from 3 to a total of 5 with the election of the additional 2 members to occur as soon as is legally possible.

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Possible advantages of 5

- Range of viewpoints and more people to represent the town
- Absences are less likely to halt business because a quorum may be easier to maintain
- Liaison committee duties can be shared more widely
- Some voters may prefer a larger board as the town plans for the future

Possible advantages of 3

- Often more efficient, easier to schedule, and faster to assemble when action is needed
- No increased costs to the Town
- No increased workload for the Town Administrator or other town employees
- Better meets the needs of a small town where filling seats with engaged, qualified candidates can be difficult
- Retains the current structure and continuity of the town's present governance model
- Can provide clearer accountability to voters because responsibility is concentrated

Possible drawbacks of 5

- More candidates are needed over time, and vacancies or write-ins can create complications or attract candidates that lack serious interest
- Increased costs for the town in stipends and salary adjustments at least for Town Administrator
- A 5-member board requires 3 for a quorum, so two disengaged or absent members can make decision-making harder
- Meetings involve more coordination, longer discussion, and greater administrative burden
- A larger board may be more unwieldy and may not improve outcomes in a small town
- Potential for longer Board meetings
- Possibility of losing engaged committee members to run for the Select Board, with some Committees already having vacancies.
- May need to convert to a Town Manager form of governance to address daily town needs

Possible drawbacks of 3

- An absence can slow action or make it harder to conduct business
- Fewer members may mean less representation of different viewpoints
- Liaison committee duties are shared by fewer officials
- Some residents may prefer a larger board over time for broader participation

Sagadahoc City / Town	Charter?	Size of Governing Body	Population (2020 Census)
Arrowsic	No	3	480
Bath	Yes	9	8,765
Bowdoin	No	3	3,139
Bowdoinham	No	5	3,062
Georgetown	No	3	1,057
Phippsburg	No	3	2,156
Richmond	No	5	3,523
Topsham	No	5	9,565
West Bath	No	3	1,911
Woolwich	No	5	3,072
Non-Sagadahoc City / Town	Charter?	Size of Governing Body	Population (2020 Census)
Boothbay Harbor	Yes	5	2,027
Brunswick	Yes	9	21,756
Edgecomb	No	3	1,188
Harpwell	No	3	5,031
Southport	No	3	622
Westport	No	3	719
Wiscasset	Yes	5	3,742

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The Town of Georgetown has a three person Select Board. The Town Office is served by a Town Administrator, Finance Director, Town Clerk / Tax Collector, and Deputy Town Clerk. The Town shares a Code Enforcement Officer with Arrowsic and Woolwich. There are three permanent Transfer Station Staff Members and some substitutes. The Georgetown Volunteer Fire Department has its own Board of Directors and is overseen by the Fire Chief.

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Georgetown has various Boards and Committees. These include the Cemetery District Trustees (3), Town Owned Property Management Board (3), School Committee (3), Board of Appeals (5 members, 2 alternates), Conservation Commission (5 members, associate members), Financial Advisory Committee (5 members, 2 alternates), Harbor Committee (5 members, 3 alternates), Planning Board (5 members, two alternates), Recreation Committee (5 or more members), Shellfish Committee (5 or more members), and Solid Waste Management Committee (5 or more members). There are currently several vacancies.

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Since 2011, Georgetown has had 10 contested Select Board Elections and 7 uncontested Select Board Elections.