

TOWN OF ST. ALBANS

2024

TOWN MEETING

WARRANT

MARCH 2, 2024

TOWN OF ST. ALBANS
WARRANT FOR
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2024

County of Somerset

State of Maine

To: Paul Doughty, Resident of the Town of St. Albans, Maine in the County of Somerset.

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby requested to notify and warn the voters of the Town of St. Albans in said County, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the St. Albans Town Hall, in said Town on Saturday, the second day of March A.D., 2024 at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to act on the following articles, to wit:

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

Art. 2. To see if the town will vote to establish Monday, September 30, 2024, as the date when taxes shall be due and payable or 30 days after commitment, whichever is later, and to see if the town will fix the rate of 8% interest on all taxes unpaid after said date.

Selectmen recommend favorable action.

Art. 3. To see if the town will vote to fix the rate of 4% interest to be paid by the town on abated taxes pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A 506-A

Selectmen recommend favorable action.

Art. 4. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount in each budget category of the 2024 annual budget during the period from January 1, 2025, to the 2025 Annual Town Meeting to be held on Saturday, March 1, 2025.

Selectmen recommend favorable action.

Art. 5. To see if the town will vote to authorize the tax collector to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed to pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A, Section 506-A

Selectmen recommend favorable action.

Art. 6. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers, on behalf of the Town, to sell and convey by municipal quitclaim deed any tax-acquired property, or dispose of any tax acquired property by any means, and on any terms they, in their discretion, may deem advisable and in the best interest of the Town, subject, however, to the following conditions:

- (1) The Municipal Officers may, in their discretion, retain any tax-acquired property for potential municipal use.
- (2) If the Municipal Officers decide to sell any tax-acquired property, they must first offer it to the former owner(s), if they currently occupy the property, for a period of 60 days and for a sum not less than all taxes, interest and costs actually accrued against the property and all taxes and interest that would have been assessed and accrued had the property not become tax acquired.
- (3) Thereafter, the Municipal Officers may sell any tax acquired property by publicly advertised sealed bid to the highest bidder, provided the bid is for a sum not less than as above described and provided the Municipal Officers reserve the right to reject any, and all bids.

Selectmen recommend favorable action.

Art. 7. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to dispose of equipment, vehicles, or furniture no longer necessary to town operations that the Municipal Officers deem appropriate and in the best interest of the town.

Selectmen recommend favorable action.

Art. 8. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Town Manager to apply for and/or accept on behalf of the Town any grants; funds or property, Federal, State or otherwise; payments in lieu of taxes, personal or private donations or any other such revenues when Municipal Officers deem them to be in the best interest of the town. If said applications are approved, to further authorize the Town Manager to execute all necessary documents pursuant to the applications, receipt, implementation, management, and completion of projects. Grant approval is subject to citizen approval of any and all matching funds, if required by a grant application.

Selectmen recommend favorable action.

Art. 9. To see if the town will vote to appropriate all of the money received from the State of Maine for Snowmobile registrations and allocate any other funds from grants designated to snowmobiling to the Sno-Devis Snowmobile Club for the maintenance of their network of snowmobile trails, on condition that those trails be open in snow season for the benefit and use of the public, and to authorize the municipal officer to enter into an agreement with the Club, under such terms and conditions as the municipal officers may deem advisable, for that purpose. (Prior to release of the check, the Sno-Devis Snowmobile Club shall submit their prior year's income, expense report, and membership list to the Town Manager.)

Selectmen recommend favorable action.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Art. 10. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for Administration/Gen. Gov't:

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$280,369.80	272,733.87	\$324,899.72	\$229,998	\$230,209.01

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$280,369.80 from taxation and/or operational revenue. Included Salaries; office and cleaning supplies; dues/training; internet/phone; town report; tax billing; legal fees; election expenses; tax audit; heat; electricity; computers & equipment; administration salaries; janitor salary.

Art. 11. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for Contractual Service.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$47,360.00	\$71,850.00	\$52,172.59	\$32,325.00	\$34,803.00

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$47,360.00 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

Art. 12. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the Town Hall.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$10,350.00	\$7,000.00	\$1,454.28	\$3,100.00	\$2,941.00

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommends \$10,350.00 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

Art. 13. To see what sum of money, if any, the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to appropriate from unassigned fund balance as they deem advisable to meet unanticipated expenses and emergencies that occur during fiscal year 2024. (Expenditures from this account must be approved by the Treasurer with concurrent approval by the Board of Selectmen).

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	8015.94

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$11,000.00 from unassigned fund balance.

Art. 14. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the Selectmen's Stipend.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$8,050.80	\$8,050.80	\$7,805.27	\$8,053.00	7497.45

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$8050.80 (stipend \$7,200.00, FICA/MC \$550.80 and training \$300.00) from taxation and operational revenue.

Art. 15. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the Code Enforcement Officer and the Planning Board.

	2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
CEO	\$20,692.30	\$16,968.00	\$14,506.94	\$13,028.00	\$14,238.11
PB	<u>\$175.00</u>	<u>\$175.00</u>	<u>\$100.00</u>	<u>\$175.00</u>	<u>\$30.00</u>
Totals	\$20,867.30	\$17,143.00	\$14,606.94	\$13,203.00	\$14,268.11

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$20,867.30 from taxation and/or operational revenue and Plumbing Permit Revenue.

Art. 16. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for mileage, training, and annual membership dues.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$12,500.00	\$10,500.00	\$10,471.74	\$7,200.00	\$5,393.94

Selectmen recommend \$12,500.00 and Budget Committee recommends \$11,500.00 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

OVERLAY

Art. 17. To see what sum the Town will vote to appropriate from unassigned fund balance to pay tax abatements and applicable interest granted during the 2024 year.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$10,000.00	\$9,500.00	\$0.00	\$9,500.00	\$10,075.29

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$10,000.00 from unassigned fund balance.

Art. 18. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the Fire Department.

	2023			
2024 Request	Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$141,128.30	\$151,854.20	\$115,435.48	\$81,956.00	\$98,387.84

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$141,128.30 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

Art. 19. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the FD Rescue Equipment.

	2023			
2024 Request	Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$15,000.00 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

Art. 20. To see what sum the town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the Public Works Highway Department.

	2023			
2024 Request	Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$488,562.70	\$432,538.49	\$343,631.29	\$352,289.00	\$357,296.67

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$488,562.70 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

SPECIAL ROAD PROJECTS

Art. 21. To see if the Town will approve up to \$212,700.00 from the unassigned fund balance for fixing and upgrading the Finson Rd and the Bubar Rd.

	2023			
2024 Request	Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$212,700.00	\$55,000.00	\$0.00	\$18,000.00	\$10,450.00

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$212,700.00 from unassigned fund balance.

NoteLRAP Funds were received from MDOT in the amount of \$53,764.00 in 2023 and was transferred into the Maine DOT Highway Reserve account.

(Local Rd Asst Prog)

OTHER SERVICES

Art. 22. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the Mid Maine Solid Waste Recycling Contract.

	2023			
2024 Request	Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$119,588.81	\$116,500.00	\$118,449.42	\$115,900.00	\$115,900.00

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$119,588.81 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

Art. 23. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and /or appropriate for an Emergency Management Director.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$2,576.50	\$2,145.90	\$645.90	\$764.00	\$538.25

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$2,576.50 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

Art. 24. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the Animal Control Officer.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$5,482.50	\$3,897.90	\$3,905.74	\$2,875.00	\$2,258.63

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,482.50 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

Art. 25. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the Somerset Humane Society.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$5,112.50	\$3,330.00	\$3,476.50	\$3,415.00	\$3,147.85

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,112.50 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

Art. 26. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for streetlights.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$4,500.00	\$6,500.00	\$4,299.87	\$6,000.00	\$6,085.93

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$4,500.00 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

Art. 27. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the Assessor's Agent Contract.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$19,700.00	\$19,700.00	\$19,237.50	\$15,600.00	\$15,600.00

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$19,700.00 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

DEBT & INTEREST

Art. 28. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate to make the lease payment, which includes principal and interest, on the Fire Truck Lease for 2024.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$28,844.18	\$28,844.18	\$28,844.18	\$28,844.18	\$28,844.18

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$28,844.18 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

(Ten year lease with Santander Leasing Co. at 2.74% interest, to be paid in full August 2025 and town will own truck).

Art. 29. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for Debt Service for the 2019 Road Paving Project, which includes principal and interest.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$91,020.00	\$92,691.43	\$92,691.43	\$94,311.43	\$94,311.43

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$91,020.00 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

Note Final payment in 2026 in the amount of \$87,531.42.

Art. 30. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for Debt Service for the sand/salt shed bond payment in 2024, which includes principal and interest.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$25,329.57	\$25,329.49	\$25,329.48	\$25,328.59	\$25,328.59

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$25,329.57 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

Note Final payment in 2024; \$25,329.57.

Art. 31. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate from unassigned fund balance for Debt Service for a tax anticipation Note for 2024, if necessary.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$1,975.00	\$1,975.00	\$0.00	\$1,975.00	\$0.00

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$1,975.00 from unassigned fund balance.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Art. 32. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the following town properties.

	2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
Town Landing	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Park by Dam	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	\$912.72	\$650.00	\$713.09
Lake Quality Testing	\$1,350.00	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$600.00	\$617.50
Dams	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total	\$5,950.00	\$6,350.00	\$912.72	\$1,250.00	\$1,330.59

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,950.00 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Art. 33. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the following Community Services.

	2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
Summerfest	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Historical Society	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Chamber Dues	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
Hartland Library	\$5,500.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Dexter Library	\$1,000.00	\$860.00	\$860.00	\$910.00	\$910.00
Total	\$9,750.00	\$9,110.00	\$9,110.00	\$8,660.00	\$8,660.00

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$9,750.00 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Art. 34. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for the following Health and Human Service Organizations.

	2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
Food Bank	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Spectrum Generat	\$1,100.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$544.00
KV Transport	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Senior Citizens	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hospice Volunteers	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,300.00	\$300.00
KV Cap Comm	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$900.00	\$300.00
Salvation Army	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
Great Moose Lake	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Life Flight of Maine	\$600.00	\$511.00	\$511.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Spirit's Place	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Totals	\$5,700.00	\$5,011.00	\$5,011.00	\$4,750.00	\$2,694.00

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$5,700.00 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

CEMETARY /VETERANS

Art. 35. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for Cemeteries and Veteran's Memorial.

	2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
Cemetery Gen Care	\$20,600.00	\$20,000.00	\$18,655.00	\$15,880.00	\$16,235.00
Special Cemetery Work	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,331.06
Crocker Cemetery	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
Veteran's Flags, Markers	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$775.00	\$775.00
Totals	\$33,000.00	\$32,400.00	\$21,055.00	\$25,055.00	\$25,741.06

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$33,000.00 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Art. 36. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for General Assistance and in addition to authorize the Municipal Officers to accept and expend funds returned by the State of Maine Department of Human Services for General Assistance.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$20,495.15	\$10,000.00	\$13,609.93

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$15,000.00 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

INSURANCE

Art. 37. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for Town Insurance.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$160,458.00	\$166,600.00	\$134,181.66	\$132,821.30	\$172,675.00

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$160,458.00 from taxation and/or operational revenue.

CAPITAL RESERVES

Art. 38. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for Fire Hall Capital Reserve Account.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$15,000.00 from taxation and/or operational revenue and/or unassigned fund balance. (This expenditure is a General Fund – surplus transfer to the Fire Hall Reserve Account).

Art. 39. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for payment to the Public Works Capital Reserve Equipment Account.

2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
\$85,000.00	\$85,000.00	\$85,000.00	\$85,000.00	\$85,000.00

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$85,000.00 from taxation and/or operational revenue and/or unassigned fund balance. (This expenditure is a General Fund – surplus transfer to the Public Works Capital Reserve Account).

Art. 40. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for payment for the Recreation Department/ Youth Baseball for the year 2024.

	2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
Big Indian Baseball	\$2,700.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,684.19	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
ITCC	\$6,500.00	\$3,250.00	\$0.00	\$2,750.00	\$3,000.00
Totals	\$9,200.00	\$4,750.00	\$2,684.19	\$4,250.00	\$4,500.00

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend \$9,200.00 from taxation and/or operational Revenue.

Art. 41. To see what the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate for Debt Service for the Fish Bridge (Webb Ridge Rd) bond payment in 2024, which includes principal and interest.

	2024 Request	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual
Principal	\$56,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest	\$4,763.89	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Totals	\$60,763.89	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Selectman and Budget Committee recommend \$60,763.89 from unassigned fund balance.

Fish Bridge (Webb Ridge Rd) Amortization			
Loan Date	4/1/2024	Interest Rate	4.90%
Loan Amount	Principal	Interest	\$280,000.00
8/4/2024	\$56,000.00	\$4,763.89	\$224,000.00
8/4/2025	\$56,000.00	\$11,128.44	\$168,000.00
8/4/2026	\$56,000.00	\$8,346.33	\$112,000.00
8/4/2027	\$56,000.00	\$5,564.22	\$56,000.00
8/4/2028	\$56,000.00	\$2,789.73	\$0.00
	\$280,000.00	\$32,592.61	

OTHER

Art. 42. To see what the Town will vote to apply from FY 2024 estimated operational revenues to offset FY 2024 appropriations.

Revenue Sources	2024 Estimate	2023 Actual	2022 Actual
Excise Tax	\$415,000.00	\$405,547.95	\$421,927.57
State Revenue Sharing	\$300,000.00	\$298,393.78	\$355,424.66
Veteran's Reimbursement	\$1,400.00	\$1,353.00	\$1,286.00
Tree Growth Reimbursement	\$14,150.00	\$14,105.84	\$14,073.80
Misc Department Accounts	\$205,000.00	N/A	\$182,219.36
DOT Highway Reserve	\$53,764.00	\$53,764.00	\$46,620.00
Homestead Reimbursement	\$175,100.00	175,093.00	\$177,783.00
BETE Reimbursement	\$10,000.00	10,043.00	\$4,906.00
Palmyra Fire			
Contract	\$8,000.00	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
Total	\$1,182,414.00	\$965,800.57	\$1,211,740.39

Selectmen and Budget Committee recommends \$ 1,182,414.00 from operational revenue to offset FY 2024 appropriations.

Art. 43. To see if the Town will vote to permanently increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of St. Albans by State Law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the tax levy limit.

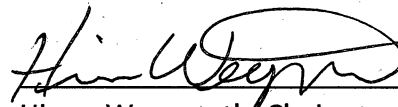
The Registrar of Voters will be in session for the purpose of revising and correcting the list of voters and accepting registrations of any person eligible to vote on Saturday, March 2nd, 2024 in the forenoon from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. in the Town Hall.

A person who is not a registered voter of St. Albans may not vote at town meeting.

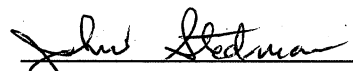
You are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting in a public and conspicuous place at least (7) days before the holding of said meeting.

Hereof fail not and have this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place mentioned.

Given under our hands at St. Albans, Maine, this 22nd day of February 2024.


Hiram Weymouth, Chairman

Gregory Crump, Vice Chair

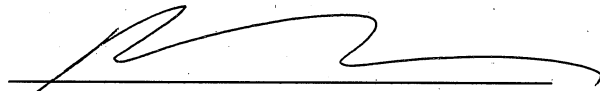

John Stedman, Selectman

CONSTABLE'S RETURN

State of Maine
Somerset County
St. Albans, ME

22 February, 2024

Pursuant to the within warrant to me directed, I have notified and warned the Inhabitants of said town, qualified as therein expressed, to meet at said time and place, and for the purpose therein named, by posting a copy of said warrant, attested by me at the St. Albans Town Hall, St. Albans Post Office, Indian Lake Market, and St. Albans Convenience Store, in said town, being public and conspicuous places in said town on February 22, 2024 being at least (7) days before said meeting.



Paul Doughty, Resident, Town of St. Albans