2019 Supplemental Town Meeting Warrant with Explanation

To: Lisa Huestis, a resident of the Town of Berwick in the County of York and the State of Maine.

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Berwick qualified by the law to vote in Town affairs, to assemble at the Town Hall on Tuesday, the 5th day of November, 2019, at 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. to act on Article 1 through 6 as set out below:

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ARTICLE 1
To elect a Moderator to preside over the meeting.

ARTICLE 2
Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $50,000 for the purpose of investing in the capital purchase and replacement of Fire Department apparatus and vehicles for Fiscal Year 2019/20 and place this amount into the Fire Department Capital account established for this purpose, with any unspent balances to carry forward each year until full expended?

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS YES VOTE 4:0

ARTICLE 3
Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $45,000 as the first loan payment for the purchase of LED Lights for the replacement of an estimated 200 street lights throughout the town and also to replace all fluorescent lighting within all the municipal buildings?

This will authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a lease purchase agreement on terms it deems appropriate with the balance to be repaid over a period of no longer than four (4) years? Payback will be realized over a 3.5 year period.

Note: Cost savings per year estimated:
Street Lights: $31,404
Buildings: $ 3,500

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS YES VOTE 5:0
ARTICLE 4
Shall the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply, on behalf of the Town, for federal financing assistance under the provisions of the Community Development Block Grant for the Envision Berwick Village Revitalization Project and further authorize the Selectmen to enter into the Community Development Block Grant Agreement with the State subsequent to federal approval of the project?

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS YES VOTE 5:0

ARTICLE 5
Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate up to $125,000 as matching funds for Fiscal Year 2020/21 budget should Article 4 be approved?

Note: This is a 25% match based on a $500,000 grant award which would be available July 1, 2020. This article must be part of the application that will be submitted in March 2020.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS YES VOTE 5:0

ARTICLE 6
Shall the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Berwick Public Library Trustees to manage all operational expenses beginning Fiscal Year 2020/21 which begins July 1, 2020 and continuing forward each fiscal year?

Note: The town would raise and appropriate all operational expenses from taxes as part of the Town Annual Budget Approval process. The Town has funded the Berwick Public Library in FY2019/20 at $109,000. This will allow the library to increase their hours and provide full-time staffing and an increase in programs.

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDS YES VOTE 5:0
The November 5, 2019 Supplemental Town Meeting Warrant is signed and approved as presented/amended by the Berwick Board of Selectmen at its meeting on the 27th day of August, 2019.

Thomas Wright, Chairman

Edward Ganiere, Vice Chair

Noah Cobb

Kenneth D. Manning, Jr.

Mark Pendergast

Board of Selectman, Town of Berwick, Maine

ATTEST:

Patricia Murray, Town Clerk