

**SPECIMEN BALLOT
BUDGET REFERENDUM**

APRIL 23, 2024

**VOTING: 8 AM TO 8 PM – JAY COMMUNITY BUILDING
ABSENTEE BALLOTS AVAILABLE: MARCH 22 – APRIL 18
(Special Circumstance required for absentees after April 18th)**

ARTICLE 1

To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

ARTICLE 2

First Selectperson, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor (Vote for One – 3-year term)
BERGERON, TERRY A.

Second Selectperson, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor (Vote for One – 3-year term)
GODING, THOMAS C.

School Board Members (Vote for Two – 3-year term)
RILEY, BRYAN S.
STROUT, DAWN M.

Jay Village Water Trustee (Vote for One – 3-year term)
HOLLEY, JOSEPH S.

North Jay Water Trustee (Vote for One – 3-year term)
Write-in candidate

ARTICLE 3

To see if the Town will vote to lapse the overdrafts and unexpended balances?

ARTICLE 4

To see if the Town will vote to set October 1, 2024 and April 1, 2025 as the dates that property taxes and sewer fees are due and payable?

ARTICLE 5

To see if the Town will vote to levy and accrue interest at the rate of six percent (6%) per annum on property taxes and sewer fees that are unpaid after October 1, 2024 and April 1, 2025?

ARTICLE 6

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 last year's annual budget during the period from July 1, 2024 to October 1, 2024 or until a budget is passed for the 2024-2025 year in the event any budget fails?

ARTICLE 7

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to negotiate and execute multi-year contracts, including but not limited to, contracts or agreements in the following areas: auditing, assessing, solid waste disposal, equipment purchasing, leasing and maintenance, and collective bargaining agreements?

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$588,025.00 for **Town Government**?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 6-0-0

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$4,000.00 for **General Assistance**?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-1-0

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$182,405.00 for **Professional Services**?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 6-0-0

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$921,992.00 for the **Police Department**?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 6-0-0

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$389,976.00 for the **Fire Department**?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 6-0-0

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$143,000.00 for **Insurance**?
(workers compensation, liability, unemployment)

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 6-0-0

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$615,300.00 for the **Sewer Department**?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-1-0

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$306,193.00 for **Debt Services**?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 6-0-0

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$1,889,760.00 for **Public Works?**

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 6-0-0

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$325,000.00 for **Paving Capital Reserve?**

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 6-0-0

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$151,482.00 for **Curbside Collection?**
(Service provided by Archie's, Inc.)

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 4-2-0

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$200,889.00 for the **Jay-Niles Memorial Library?**

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 6-0-0

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$55,600.00 for **Ambulance Service?**

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 6-0-0

ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$373,300.00 for **Hydrants / Street Lights?**

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 6-0-0

ARTICLE 22

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate all **revenues** received, that are not dedicated or otherwise appropriated for other expenses, to reduce the tax commitment? Estimated \$2,836,500.00

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 6-0-0

ARTICLE 23

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate to the **Jay Snowmobile Club** the payment received annually by the Town of Jay from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife from snowmobile registrations paid by Jay citizens?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 6-0-0

ARTICLE 24

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$1.00 for each ATV that is registered in the Town of Jay to the **Western Maine ATV Club**?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 6-0-0

ARTICLE 25

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the Cable TV Franchise Fees received annually by the Town of Jay from our Cable TV Company for the support and operation of **Public Access TV**?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 6-0-0

ARTICLE 26

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of \$675.00 for the **North Jay Grange**?

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 5-0-0

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: YES VOTE 6-0-0

ARTICLE 27

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Tax Collector to enter into a standard agreement with taxpayers establishing a **TAX CLUB** payment plan for property taxes on their primary and legal residence, whereby: (1) the taxpayer agrees to pay specified monthly payments to the Town based on his/her tax obligation for the current years property taxes; (2) the Town agrees not to charge interest on timely payments made pursuant to the tax club agreement; (3) the agreement is automatically terminated if the taxpayer misses two scheduled payments, the taxpayer then becomes subject to the same due dates and interest dates and rates as other taxpayers who are not participating in a tax club (4) only taxpayers who do not have any outstanding tax obligations for prior tax years are eligible to participate in the tax club program; and (5) taxpayers wishing to participate in a tax club for a particular property tax year shall enter into an agreement with the Town?

ARTICLE 28

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the payment of tax abatements approved by the Select Board/Assessors from the property tax overlay or, if necessary, Undesignated Fund Balance?

ARTICLE 29

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from the Undesignated Fund Balance those funds deemed necessary by the Select Board to reduce the amount of property taxes to be collected, to fund the 2024-2025 budget in an effort to stabilize the tax rate in a manner consistent with prudent fiscal management?

ARTICLE 30

To see if the “Interlocal Agreement for the Treatment of Waste Water Flows for the Towns of Livermore Falls and Jay, June 2015” be amended?

ARTICLE 31

Shall an Ordinance entitled “Twenty-Seventh Ordinance Amending the Jay Environmental Control and Improvement Ordinance” and an amendment to the “Shoreland Zoning Ordinance for the Municipality of Jay, Maine” be enacted to be consistent with State Law?

ARTICLE 32

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to negotiate an agreement on such terms as it deems to be in the best interests of the Town, not to exceed 7 years, with Polycor New England Inc. (Polycor) whereby, in consideration of annual financial contributions made by Polycor to the Town’s Paving Capital Reserve Account, the section of Old Jay Hill Road and Woodman Hill Road running from Route 4 at the top of Jay Hill to just past Polycor’s driveway entrance at and about 16 Woodman Hill Road (approximately 1.4 miles in length) is not subject to a seasonal gross registered vehicle weight limit posting, provided that, at a minimum, the agreement (i) allows the Town to expend the funds contributed by Polycor for whatever road paving projects the Select Board deems to be in the best interests of the Town; (ii) allows the parties to reopen the agreement and negotiate in good faith for an upward adjustment of the annual financial contribution to be made by Polycor if the base price per ton of asphalt increases 25% or more as compared to the current (2024) year’s base price; and (iii) allows the Town to suspend or terminate the agreement in order to protect the condition of the road and/or the safety of the traveling public in the event that unforeseen circumstances arise?

ARTICLE 33

To see if the Town will vote by **secret ballot** on all warrant articles at the 2025 annual Town Meeting?

INFORMATION RELATED TO ARTICLE 31

In 2022, the Maine State Legislature enacted LD 2003, which aims to increase the availability of Affordable Housing and Accessory Dwelling Units in the State of Maine. The deadline to comply is July, 2024.

In response to the new law the Town is putting forth amendments to the current Jay Environmental Control and Improvement Ordinance which includes changes to Chapter 5 -Subdivisions and adds Chapter 15 - Town-Wide Residential Land Use Standards and amendments to the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance (Article 31). The new law aims to increase affordable housing and allows accessory dwelling units to be added to single family homes. In Jay this was, in most cases, already allowed but to meet state guidelines a new ordinance needed to be written with minor changes made to both the Subdivision and Shoreland Zone Ordinance.

The Ordinances (Article 31) and Interlocal Agreement (Article 30) are available at the Town Office.

The RSU 73 Annual Budget Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 11th at the Spruce Mountain High School Cafeteria at 6:00 P.M. At this meeting the School Budget will be set and the final referendum vote to approve or disapprove the overall budget will be voted on at the polls on April 23rd.