



Town of Standish REFERENDUM VOTE

Election Day: TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2022

Question 1. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds and/or bond anticipation notes to include the principal amount of up to \$775,000 for the purpose of financing the purchase of a new Rescue vehicle (“Rescue 3”) and a new Fire Tank truck (“Tank 3”) as set forth in the Council’s proposed capital projects budget for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year, with the dates, maturities, denominations, interest rate(s) and other details of such borrowing to be determined by the Municipal Officers, and to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the proceeds of said bonds or bond anticipation notes for the foregoing projects, plus an amount necessary to refund the interest payments on any bond anticipation notes issued for said purpose and any costs of issuance of the bonds and/or bond anticipation notes.

Tank-3 is located at our Steep Falls fire station. It was due to be replaced in 2015 but it was in excellent condition and we have put off upgrading it for another 7 years. In the past two years we have had two catastrophic failures resulting in tens of thousands of dollars in repairs which leads us to this referendum.

Since we are unable to secure vehicle chassis from any manufacturer we moved our Rescue-3 (2012 Chevrolet with 194,000 on it so far) replacement up a year so we can at least have it ordered. The manufacturers are giving us a delivery time of 18-24 months just to receive a chassis and another 180 days after for both trucks to be built and delivered.

With the amount of emergency calls we are handling a year the ambulance would be run into the ground and no longer able to respond to calls. With this higher bond value this year it will reduce next year’s bond amount by more than half of what is projected.

Question 2. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds and/or bond anticipation notes to include the principal amount of up to \$300,000 for the purpose of engaging professional services to perform a revaluation of properties in the Town, as set forth in the Council’s proposed capital projects budget for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year, with the dates, maturities, denominations, interest rate(s) and other details of such borrowing to be determined by the Municipal Officers, and to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the proceeds of said bonds or bond anticipation notes for the foregoing projects, plus an amount necessary to refund the interest payments on any bond anticipation notes issued for said purpose and any costs of issuance of the bonds and/or bond anticipation notes.

A revaluation is the process of conducting the data collection and market analysis necessary to equalize the values of all properties within a municipality for the purpose of a fair distribution of the tax burden. A revaluation does not increase or decrease total tax revenue collected by the Town of Standish. Revaluation is a revenue neutral process. It merely redistributes the tax burden more fairly.

The last town wide revaluation in Standish was in 2004. Inequities now exist in property record data and assessments. A revaluation will address both issues and ensure the tax burden is distributed more equitably. Even if the process were to start this year, new valuations would not be rolled out until August 2025. At a minimum, Standish is 21 years removed from the last revaluation.

Question 3. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds and/or bond anticipation notes to include the principal amount of up to \$40,000 to finance the purchase of an accounting server and software upgrade and the construction of renovations in the Town Hall Clerk’s office, as set forth in the Council’s proposed capital projects budget for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year, with the dates, maturities, denominations, interest rate(s) and other details of such borrowing to be determined by the Municipal Officers, and to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the proceeds of said bonds or bond anticipation notes for the foregoing projects, plus an amount necessary to refund the interest payments on any bond anticipation notes issued for said purpose and any costs of issuance of the bonds and/or bond anticipation notes.

Every 3-5 years each town server needs to be upgraded in order to run the accounting system software that is used for motor vehicle registration, cash receipting, tax billing, and general financial reporting. The server is currently 4 years old. In order to upgrade the Munis accounting software, the town needs a more up to date machine. There are also costs associated with upgrading the software.

In Fiscal Year 2023 the town needs to renovate the town clerk’s office to provide more space for a small and crowded office. With a new hire for the clerk’s office in FY2023, the office needs to be reconfigured.

Question 4. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds and/or bond anticipation notes to include the principal amount of up to \$59,000 for the purpose of financing the purchase of a mower, the construction of a storage shed/garage and a plow package for the Town’s Ford F350 pickup, as set forth in the Council’s proposed capital projects budget for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year, with the dates, maturities, denominations, interest rate(s) and other details of such borrowing to be determined by the Municipal Officers, and to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the proceeds of said bonds or bond anticipation notes for the foregoing projects, plus an amount necessary to refund the interest payments on any bond anticipation notes issued for said purpose and any costs of issuance of the bonds and/or bond anticipation notes.

The parks and recreation department requests up to \$59,000 for 3 items: 1) A mower to work in conjunction with the current machine that has 800 hours and is used to mow municipal properties such as public parks, boat launch, and town hall. It will be compatible with existing attachments currently used for aerating, lime application, overseeding, and dragging fields, and snow blowing the ice-skating rink. 2) The current storage container has reached its lifespan, is unsafe, and beyond repair. A new expanded storage garage will be used for seasonal recreation program supplies as well as to shelter one or two vehicles, and allow parks staff the ability to efficiently service equipment indoors. 3) The winter plow package is for the parks F-250 pickup truck.

Question 5. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds and/or bond anticipation notes to include the principal amount of up to \$283,000 for the purpose of financing the purchase of a plow truck with plow gear (“Truck 1”), (2) Roll Off Containers, 4WD Loader/Backhoe, for the construction of a Sand Storage Bunker, and the purchase of LED lighting for the Transfer Station, as set forth in the Council’s proposed capital projects budget for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year, with the dates, maturities, denominations, interest rate(s) and other details of such borrowing to be determined by the Municipal Officers, and to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the proceeds of said bonds or bond anticipation notes for the foregoing projects, plus an amount necessary to refund the interest payments on any bond anticipation notes issued for said purpose and any costs of issuance of the bonds and/or bond anticipation notes.

These proposed expenditures are to upgrade older equipment used by the Public Works Department. The “Truck 1” is a 2011 Ford 550 with 135,000 miles. During the winter season the truck is outfitted with a plow and sander. The 4WD Loader/Backhoe is a 2003 machine and is heavily used by Public Works. The 2 Roll Off Containers are used at the Transfer Station to containerize waste to be transported. The present inventory of Roll Offs is not sufficient to handle the volume of waste brought to the Transfer Station on a weekend. The Sand Storage Bunker shelters the winter sand that is available for residential pickup during the winter. The Bunker is at the exit of the Transfer Station and was built in 1995. The salt/sand mixture has deteriorated the foundation and needs to be replaced. The Transfer Station was built in 1991 and the interior and exterior lighting fixtures are original. The proposed LED lighting would upgrade the facility to more efficient and economical lighting.

Question 6. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds and/or bond anticipation notes to include the principal amount of up to \$920,695 to finance the costs of paving and/or maintenance to the following roads: Arthur Drive, Bluff Drive, Cottage Road, Crestwood Drive, Dale Lane, Deborah Lane, Deerfield Circle, Dow Road, Gilbert Drive, Hill Drive, Libby Pines Road, Otter Drive, Roy Lane, Royal Pine Drive, Smith Avenue, Steven Lane, Susan Drive, and Turkey Farm Road, and to replace the Moody Road culvert as set forth in the Council’s proposed capital projects budget for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year, with the dates, maturities, denominations, interest rate(s) and other details of such borrowing to be determined by the Municipal Officers, and to see if the Town will vote to appropriate the proceeds of said bonds or bond anticipation notes for the foregoing projects or other paving, maintenance or road improvements to be determined by the Municipal Officers to the extent there are excess bond proceeds after completion of the foregoing projects, plus an amount necessary to refund the interest payments on any bond anticipation notes issued for said purpose and any costs of issuance of the bonds and/or bond anticipation notes.

The roads listed in this bond question are the next roads to cycle through the Town’s Capital Plan for road improvements. The roads will be ditched, culverts replaced, and brush trimmed, where needed, prior to being paved. For most of these roads the last resurfacing was in the mid-1990’s. The Moody Road culvert is at the Stickey River crossing. The existing culvert is collapsing and needs to be replaced. These bond funds will be used, with grant funds from the State of Maine, to complete the replacements.

POLLS OPEN FROM 6:00 AM TO 8:00 PM
VOTING WILL BE HELD IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT BAYS • 175 NORTHEAST ROAD