

DALLAS PLANTATION
ANNUAL WARRANT

FISCAL YEAR
JULY 1, 2023-JUNE 20, 2024

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2023
6:00 PM



Fran York spent her childhood summers with her parents in Rangeley. She was a reporter for the Portland Press Herald and is the author of *The Loon Lake Story* (2005). Befittingly, she lives in her cabin on Loon Lake and is the oldest resident of Dallas Plantation (by three months), at 98 years of age.



Arlene Fichtner, the second-oldest resident of Dallas Plantation (also 98), began her career in nursing working for the town doctor, Dr. Fichtner. She moved to Greenville where she and her husband owned and operated Penobscot Lake Lodge, making lifelong friends. She later moved back to Rangeley to be closer to family.

Dallas Plantation Town Warrant

for Fiscal Year

July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024

Town Meeting: Friday, June 23, 2023

To: T.A. Morgan, Resident of Dallas Plantation, in the County of Franklin, State of Maine

Greetings: In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of Dallas Plantation, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Dallas Plantation Town House, on the 23rd of June 2023 at six o'clock in the evening, to act on the following articles:

Article 1:

To choose a moderator.

Article 2:

To elect an Assessor for a three-year term.

Current Assessors:	Patricia Ellis	Term Expires 2023
	Linda Jones	Term Expires 2024
	Mark Bridges	Term Expires 2025

Article 3:

To elect a First Assessor, for a one-year term, from among the three elected Assessors.

Article 4:

To elect one Budget Committee member for a two-year term. The Budget Committee consists of the Assessors and two elected members.

Elected members:	Kathryn Pye	Term Expires 2023
	Elizabeth Flynn	Term Expires 2024

Article 5:

To see if the Plantation voters will authorize the Assessors to carry forward the balances in all Town Accounts.

The Budget Committee recommends accepting as read.

Article 6:

To see if the Plantation voters will authorize the Assessors to charge interest on overdue real estate taxes, 30 days after the due date that is printed on the tax bill.

The Budget Committee recommends accepting as read.

Article 7:

To see what rate of interest the Plantation will charge on overdue real estate taxes.
(State statutory maximum: 8%)

The Budget Committee recommends approving 8%.

Article 8:

To see if the Plantation voters will authorize the Assessors to pay 4.0% interest on tax abatements and pay abatements from the overlay.

The Budget Committee recommends accepting as read.

Article 9:

To see if the Plantation voters will authorize the Assessors to sell surplus personal property only if it has an estimated value less than \$10,000. Personal property over that amount shall be put out to bid.

The Budget Committee recommends accepting as read.

Article 10:

To see if the Plantation voters will authorize the Assessors, on behalf of the Plantation, to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired for non-payment of taxes thereon, and to execute quit-claim deeds for said property. Said real estate to be sold as follows:

1. A notice of intent to sell such property shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Franklin County at least three weeks prior to such sale inviting interested parties to submit sealed bids thereon. The notice shall be inserted for five (5) consecutive days of publication; former owners to be notified by certified mail of the sale.
2. The Parties from whom the property has been taken, for non-payment of taxes therein, may purchase said real estate from the Plantation at any time before expiration of fourteen (14) days from the last date of publication. In the latter case, the purchase price shall consist of the following: back taxes, interest, and costs; cost of publication of notice, cost of quit-claim deed; any administrative and legal fees.
3. In the event the parties from whom the property has been taken by the Plantation for unpaid taxes fail to redeem the property, as provided in paragraph two (2), the Assessors may sell the property to the highest bidder. The Assessors have the authority to reject any, and all bids they deem too low.
4. In the event the property does not receive a bid or any or all bids are rejected, the Assessors may sell the property via the real estate market by listing the property with a broker of their choosing and set a purchase price reasonable for the current market. Except that the Municipal Officers shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. 943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owners.

The Budget Committee recommends accepting as read.

Article 11:

To see if the Plantation voters will authorize the Assessors to apply for, accept, and expend without further action by Town Meeting, money from the State, Federal, or other government units or private sources, which becomes available during the year, pursuant to Title 30-A, Section 5682, of the Maine Revised Statutes, and to authorize the Assessors to accept on behalf of the Town, gifts, legacies, and devises made to the Town in trust for any public purpose. State and local funds include the following categories:

1. Local Roads Assistance Program (LRAP) – major road improvement funding
2. Maine DOT Road Assistance Programs
3. Municipal Revenue Sharing
4. Public Library State Aid per Capita
5. Snowmobile Registry Money
6. State Aid to Education
7. State Property Tax Relief Program
8. Tree Growth Reimbursement
9. Veterans Exemption Reimbursement
10. Tax Stabilization Reimbursement
11. Homestead Exemption Reimbursement
12. ARPA Funds
13. State grants or other funds, including private donations not included in items 1-12 above.

The Budget Committee recommends accepting as read.

Article 12:

To see if the Plantation voters will vote to use monies in the following accounts to **reduce the real estate tax commitment:**

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Excise Account (auto and boat) | Tree Growth Account |
| Licenses Town/Agent Fee Account | Open Space Account |
| Earned Interest Account | Farmland Account |
| Veterans Exemption Account | Tax Acquired Property Account |

The Budget Committee recommends accepting as read.

Article 13:

To see if the Plantation voters will vote to use any unused overlay for the reduction of taxes.

The Budget Committee recommends accepting as read.

Article 14:

To see what sum of money the voters will raise and appropriate for the salaries of all elected and appointed officials. Amount not to exceed: \$108,330.00.

	22/23	23/24	Raise
First Assessor	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Assessor	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Assessor	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Tax Collector	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
Treasurer	\$11,500.00	\$8,200.00	\$5,700.00
Health Officer	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Town Clerk	\$41,200.00	\$41,100.00	\$34,123.00
Plow Driver	\$22,568.00	\$23,950.00	\$22,268.00
Maintenance Personnel	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Budget Committee (2)	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00
Animal Control Officer	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$550.00
Ballot Clerks	\$1,750.00	\$1,350.00	\$434.00
Emergency Management	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
Road Foreman	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$108,300.00	\$96,225.00

Article 15:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the matching contribution to **Social Security and Medicare**, required under federal law and **State and Federal Unemployment Taxes and other Fees Associated with Payroll Processing**.

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$1,250.00	\$2,556.00
Total operating budget:	\$11,500.00	\$14,000.00

The Budget Committee recommends raising: \$11,444.00

Article 16:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Franklin County Tax** for the fiscal year 7/1/2023 through 6/30/2024, up to the operating budget.

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$0.00	\$19,288.00
Total operating budget:	\$203,567.00	\$211,945.00

The Budget Committee recommends raising: \$192,657.00

Article 17:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Employee Training Account**.

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$2,447.00	\$1,792.00
Total operating budget:	\$2,447.00	\$1,792.00
Raise:	\$0.00	\$0.00

The Budget Committee recommends raising: \$0.00

Article 18:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Employees Health Insurance Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$2,509.43	\$8,908.00
Total operating budget:	\$13,970.00	\$7,200.00
Raise:	\$11,460.57	\$0.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$0.00

Article 19:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Town of Rangeley Services.**

Opening balance:	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Solid Waste:	\$66,886.54	\$86,582.10
Sludge Disposal:	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
Fire Protection:	\$65,558.06	\$69,773.74
Total operating budget:	\$133,944.60	\$156,355.84
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$154,855.84

Article 20:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **North Star Ambulance Service.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total operating budget:	\$19,249.00	\$24,158.00
Raise:	\$19,249.00	\$24,158.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$24,158.00

Article 21:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **LUPC Assessment Fee.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total operating budget:	\$25,614.00	\$28,089.00
Raise:	\$25,614.00	\$28,089.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$28,089.00

Article 22:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate to enter a contract with the **Franklin County Animal Shelter**, for boarding of stray animals (required by State Statute).

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total operating budget:	\$679.80	\$708.00
Raise:	\$679.80	\$708.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$708.00

Article 23:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Maine Municipal Association Dues.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total operating budget:	\$1,925.00	\$2,100.00
Raise:	\$1,925.00	\$2,100.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$2,100.00

Article 24:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Maine Municipal Association Insurance Package Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$1,288.00	\$2,057.00
Total operating budget:	\$11,920.00	\$9,425.00
Raise:	\$10,632.00	\$7,368.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$7,368.00

Article 25:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Forest Fire Escrow Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$125,004.00	\$150,004.00
Total operating budget:	\$150,004.00	\$175,004.00
Raise:	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$25,000.00

**The goal is to reach an operating budget of \$356,531.00*

Article 26:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the operation and maintenance of the **Town House.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$13,400.00	\$6,573.00
Total operating budget:	\$25,000.00	\$35,000.00
Raise:	\$11,600.00	\$28,427.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$28,427.00

Article 27:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Computer Hardware and Software Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$0.00	\$187.00
Total operating budget:	\$8,000.00	\$10,000.00
Raise:	\$8,000.00	\$9,813.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$9,813.00

Article 28:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the purpose of maintaining three **Town Cemeteries** in the Plantation, in accordance with State requirements.

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$3,387.00	\$3,376.00
Total operating budget:	\$3,387.00	\$6,300.00
Raise:	\$0.00	\$2,924.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$2,924.00

Article 29:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **General Assistance Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$22,671.00	\$25,000.00
Total operating budget:	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Raise:	\$2,329.00	\$0.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$0.00

Article 30:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Contingency Fund Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Total operating budget:	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Raise:	\$0.00	\$0.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$0.00

Article 31:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Summer Roads Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$18,730.00	\$18,538.00
Total operating budget:	\$40,000.00	\$50,000.00
Raise:	\$21,270.00	\$31,462.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$31,462.00

Article 32:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Winter Roads Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$15,467.00	\$8,629.00
Total operating budget:	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
Raise:	\$24,533.00	\$31,371.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$31,371.00

Article 33:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Road Projects Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$363,501.00	\$191,707.00
Total operating budget:	\$500,000.00	\$329,707.00
LRAP funds	\$13,132.00	\$13,000.00
Raise:	\$123,367.00	\$125,000.00

The Budget Committee recommends raising: \$125,000.00

**The goal is to reach an operating budget of \$500,000.00*

Article 34:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Truck Expense Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$24,575.00	\$26,248.00
Total operating budget:	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
Raise:	\$25,425.00	\$23,752.00

The Budget Committee recommends raising: \$23,752.00

Article 35:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Truck Purchase Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$229,292.00	\$254,500.00
Total operating budget:	\$250,000.00	\$254,500.00
Raise:	\$20,708.00	\$0.00

The Budget Committee recommends raising: \$0.00

**The goal of a \$250,000.00 operating budget has been met.*

Article 36:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Sand/Salt Shed/Garage Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$4,706.00	\$4,493.00
Total operating budget:	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Raise:	\$294.00	\$507.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$507.00

Article 37:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Plantation Equipment Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$22,201.00	\$22,201.00
Total operating budget:	\$22,201.00	\$22,201.00
Raise:	\$0.00	\$0.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$0.00

Article 38:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **E-911 Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$2,672.00	\$1,277.00
Total operating budget:	\$2,672.00	\$1,277.00
Raise:	\$0.00	\$0.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$0.00

Article 39:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Assessing Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$500.00	\$0.00
Total operating budget:	\$26,100.00	\$26,600.00
Raise:	\$25,600.00	\$26,600.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$26,600.00

Article 40:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Mapping and Equalization Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$27,800.00	\$28,631.00
Total operating budget:	\$30,800.00	\$38,631.00
Raise:	\$3,000.00	\$10,000.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$10,000.00

**The goal is to reach an operating budget of \$60,000.00*

Article 41:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Audit of Town Financial Records Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total operating budget:	\$3,800.00	\$3,900.00
Raise:	\$3,800.00	\$3,900.00
The Budget Committee recommends raising:		\$3,900.00

Article 42:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Legal Expense Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$19,079.00	\$19,079.00
Total operating budget:	\$19,079.00	\$19,079.00
Raise:	\$0.00	\$0.00

The Budget Committee recommends raising: \$0.00

Article 43:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate for the **Surplus Account.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Opening balance:	\$407,525.00	\$407,525.00
Total operating budget:	\$407,525.00	\$407,525.00
Raise:	\$0.00	\$0.00

The Budget Committee recommends raising: \$0.00

Articles 44 through 59 are donation requests. The Budget Committee makes **no recommendations.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Articles 44 through 59 are requested donations	\$40,721.00	\$38,974.00

Article 44:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate in support of the **Rangeley Public Library.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Requested	\$11,194.00	\$11,194.00

Article 45:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate in support of the **Rangeley Health Ride.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Requested	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00

Article 46:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate in support of the **Rangeley Lakes Cross Country Ski Club.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Requested	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00

Article 47:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate in support of the **Invasive Plants and Water Quality Protection Program.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Requested	\$4,050.00	\$4,050.00

Article 48:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate in support of the **Rangeley Region Health and Wellness Partnership.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Requested	\$2,477.00	\$2,230.00

Article 49:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate in support of the **Rangeley Region Health and Wellness- Behavioral Health Services.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Requested	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00

Article 50:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate in support of the **Rangeley Fireworks Display.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Requested	\$500.00	\$500.00

Article 51:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate in support of the **Rangeley Town Park.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Requested	\$500.00	\$500.00

Article 52:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate in support of the **Maine Forestry Museum.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Requested	\$950.00	\$1,000.00

Article 53:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate in support of the **Rangeley Friends of the Arts- After School Program.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Requested	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00

Article 54:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate in support of the **Rangeley Region Chamber of Commerce.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Requested	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00

Article 55:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate in support of the **Oquossoc ATV Club.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Requested	\$500.00	\$500.00

Article 56:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate in support of the **Rangeley Town House Meal Site.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Requested	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00

Article 57:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate in support of the **Rangeley Lakes Snowmobile Club.**

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Requested	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00

Article 58:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate in support of the **Maine Public Broadcasting**.

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Requested	\$100.00	\$100.00

Article 59:

To see what sum of money the Plantation voters will raise and appropriate in support of the **American Red Cross**.

	<u>22/23</u>	<u>23/24</u>
Requested	\$250.00	\$500.00

Article 60:

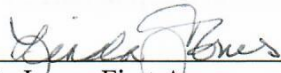
To see if the Plantation voters will authorize an increase in the property tax levy limit of \$_____ established for Dallas Plantation by State Law LD 1, in the event the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a municipal core tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limit. **(Written ballot required).**

If the voters follow the recommendations of the Budget Committee, as laid out in this proposed budget, the budget will be below the property tax levy limit by \$71,919.00. Property Tax Levy Limit for this year is \$520,686.00.

The Registrar of Voters hereby gives notice that she will be present for the purpose of revising the voting list at the Town House on Friday June 23, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Given under our hands at Dallas Plantation, County of Franklin, State of Maine, on the 13st day of June 2023.

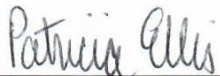
BOARD OF ASSESSORS:



Linda Jones, First Assessor

6/13/23

Dated



Patricia Ellis, Assessor

6/13/23

Dated



Mark Bridges, Assessor

6-13-23

Dated

A true copy of the warrant

Attest:



Katrina Gacki, Town Clerk

6-13-23

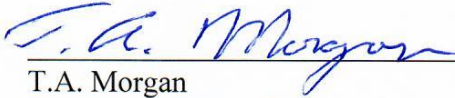
Dated

Return on the Warrant

Dallas Plantation, Maine

June 14, 2023

Pursuant to the warrant within, to me directed, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of said town, qualified as herein expressed, to meet at the said time and place, for the purposes therein named, by posting an attested copy of said warrant at the Dallas Plantation Town Office and at the Rangeley Post Office, being public and conspicuous places in said town, on the 14TH day of June 2023, being at least seven days before the meeting.



T.A. Morgan
Resident of Dallas Plantation