

**SECRET BALLOT ELECTION AND
TOWN MEETING WARRANT
FOR THE
TOWN OF UNITY
Friday, March 27, 2026
and
*Saturday, March 28, 2026***

To: Denise Whitney, a resident of the Town of Unity, in the County of Waldo, State of Maine.

Greetings:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Unity, in said county and state, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Town Office of said Town on Friday, the 27st day of March, 2026, at 12:00 p.m., then and there to act upon Article 1 and by secret ballot on Article 2 as set out below, the polling hours therefore to be from 12:00 noon until 7:00 p.m. Please see supporting documents about budget breakdowns and expenditures in the last pages of the Town Report.

And to notify and warn said Inhabitants to meet at the Unity School Gymnasium in said town on Saturday, the 28th day of March 2026, at 9:00 a.m., then and there to act on Articles 3 through 44 as set out below, to wit:

- Article 1. To elect a Moderator to preside over said meeting.
- Article 2. To elect one Municipal Officer for Selectboard for a three (3) year term.
- Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to approve the Maine Moderator's Manual 7th Edition as the rules of procedure for the meeting.
- Article 4. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectboard, on behalf of the Town, to appoint all necessary Town Officials.
- Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the Snowmobile Registration Refund from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to be used for grooming trails, with matching funds, under the supervision of the Selectboard and the Project Director.
- Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the tax collector or treasurer to accept prepayment of taxes not yet committed, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 506.
- Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to allow a 2% discount on all 2026 property taxes if paid in full within 60 days of commitment.

(Expended FY25/26 \$38,423.69)

- Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to charge the state's recommended interest at the rate of 7.00% per annum on all 2026 taxes which remain unpaid within 90 days of Commitment.
- Article 9. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they deem advisable and to execute a quit claim on such property. With the exemption, Municipal Officers shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S.A. § 943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell to anyone other than the former owner(s). If the Select Board chooses to place property up for bid, they shall have the right to accept or reject any or all bids.
- Article 10. To see if the Town will authorize the Municipal Officers to spend an amount not to exceed 1/6 of the budget amount in each category of the annual budget during the period from February 1, 2027, to the Annual Town Meeting 2027.
- Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to make final determinations regarding the closing and opening of roads to winter maintenance pursuant to 23 M.R.S.A. SS 2953.
- Article 12. To see if the town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to dispose of town-owned personal property, under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.
- Article 13. Shall the Town accept all gifts raised through various fund-raising activities and donations and appropriate them for their intended purposes, as recommended by the municipal officers.
- Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to allow private organizations to use municipal property for private use with a Municipal Officer authorization.

Special Appropriations

- Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$606.00 for Spectrum Generations for FY 26/27.

Request by Agency:	\$606.00
Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend: Raise:	\$606.00
<i>(Expended FY25/26 \$607)</i>	

- Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise, and appropriate \$5000.00 for Waldo Community Action Partners for FY 26/27.

Request by Agency:	\$17,564.00
Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend: Raise:	\$5,000.00
<i>(Expended FY25/26 \$5,000)</i>	

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise, and appropriate \$3,000 for the Unity Public Library for the FY 26/27.

Request by the Agency: \$3,000.00
Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommends: Raise: \$3,000.00
(Expended FY25/26 \$3,000)

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise, and appropriate \$730 for New Hope for Woman for FY 26/27.

Request by the Agency: \$730.00
Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommends: Raise: \$730.00
(Expended FY25/26 \$720.00)

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise, and appropriate \$3,000 for Open Door for FY26/27.

Request by the Agency: \$1000.00
Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommends: Raise: \$3000.00
(Expended FY25/26 \$1000)

Article 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise, and appropriate \$3,000 for the Volunteer Food Pantry for FY26/27.

Request by Agency: \$3,000.00
Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend: Raise: \$3,000.00
(Expended FY25/26 \$5,000.00)

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise, and appropriate \$195,999 for the Unity Ambulance for FY26/27.

Request by Agency: \$195,998.24
Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommends:

Carry	\$81,666.74
Raise	\$114,332.26
Total	\$195,999.00

(Expended FY25/26 \$114,332.26)

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise, and appropriate \$25,000 for Friends of Lake Winnecook to support the Alum Treatment for the Lake.

Requested by the Agency: \$25,000.00

Selectboard and the Budget Committee Recommends:
Raise: \$25,000

Parks and Recreation

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise, and appropriate \$1,000.00 for the Parks and Recreation Committee for FY 26/27.

Selectboard Recommend and Budget Committee: TIF: \$1,000.00
(Expended FY25/26 \$1,000.00)

Public Works

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and/or appropriate \$278,100.00 for **Summer Road Repair and Maintenance and Sand and Salt Shed Maintenance** for the FY 26/27.

Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend:

Carry	\$71,023.52
PW Reserves	\$146,692.57
LRAP	\$43,204.00
TIF	\$7,550.00
Undesignated	\$9,629.91
Total	\$278,100.00

(Expended FY 25/26 \$220,696.57)

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$355,000.00 for **Winter Road Repair and Maintenance** (Plowing, Salt, and Sand) for the FY 26/27.

Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend:

Carry	\$22,359.99
Excise	\$292,640.01
Undesignated	\$40,000.00
Total	\$355,000.00

(Expended FY25/26 \$337,640.01)

Waste Removal

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$43,000 for the Town's share of the Unity Area Regional Recycling Center for the FY 26/27.

Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend:

Raise \$43,000.00
(Expended FY25/26 \$40,924.24)

Article 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise, and appropriate \$28,000 to pay the Rubbish Disposal Tip Fee and Municipal Review Committee for the FY26/27.

Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend:

Carry	\$6,415.85
Raise	\$21,584.15
Total	\$28,000.00

(Expended FY25/26 \$25,325.91)

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$92,800 for Solid Waste Pickup for the FY 26/27.

Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend:

Sticker	\$57,885.00
Raise	\$34,915.00
Total	\$92,800.00

(Expended FY25/26 \$84,934.00)

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to raise, and appropriate \$2,000 for Landfill Maintenance and Monitoring for the FY26/27.

Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend:

Raise: \$2,000.00

(Expended FY25/26 \$4,600)

Kanokolus Beach

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$12,732 for Kanokolus Beach for the FY26/27.

Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend:

Carry	\$863.49
Boat Excise	\$1,795.20
CBI Grant	\$2,500.00
TIF	\$7,573.31
Total	\$12,732.00

(Expended FY25/26 \$11,428.51)

Fire Department and Public Safety

Article 31. To see if the Town will vote to raise, and appropriate \$131,902 for Fire Department Operations, Maintenance, Salaries, and Payroll Expenses for the FY26/27.

Budget Committee and Selectboard recommend:

MOFGA Income	\$6,640.00
Raise	\$125,262.00
Total	\$131,902.00

(Expended FY25/26 \$116,112.89)

Article 32. To see if the town will transfer remaining unused budget funds from the Fire Department Operation, Maintenance and Salary Budget in the amount of \$2,676.11 to the Fire Department Capital Improvements Account.

Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend:

Undesignated Funds: \$2,676.11

Article 33. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$13,772.50 for the Fire Department Capital Improvements Account for the FY26/27.

Selectboard & Budget Committee recommendation:

MOFGA & Kennebec County Fire Contract Income: \$13,772.50

(Expended FY25/26 \$23,000)

Debt Service

Article 34. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$40,116.00 for the Firehouse Loan Payment for the ensuing year FY 26/27.

Selectboard and Budget Committee Recommend:

Raise: \$40,116.00

(Expended FY25/26 \$40,115.50)
(Loan Matures 2032)

Administration

Article 35. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to use up to \$10,000 from undesignated funds as they deem advisable to meet unanticipated expenses and emergencies that occur during the FY26/27.

(Expended FY 25/26 \$1,020.55)

Article 36. To see if the Town will vote to raise, and appropriate \$202,290 for Town Official’s Salaries for the FY 26/27. *(Includes: Selectboard, Administrative Assistant, Deputy Clerk, Health Officer, Registrar of Voters, CEO, ACO, EMA, Sexton, Custodian, Ballot Clerks, Benefits, and Payroll Expenses)*

Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend:

Carry	\$12,469.30
Excise	\$69,256.31
Admin Fees	\$18,603.77
Bank Interest	\$51,075.72
Cable Fees	\$4,278.78
Building Permits	\$2,725.00
Plumbing Fees	\$5,520.72
TIF	\$4,431.00
Dog Fines	\$375.00
Raise	\$33,554.40
Total	\$202,290.00

(Expended FY25/26 \$178,370.70)

Article 37. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$137,532 for Administration *(now including Assessing, Contracts, ACO/CEO/LPI/EMA Incidental Account, Animal Shelter Contracts, KVCOG, Training, Legal, Audit etc. for the FY 26/27.*

Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend:

Carry	\$2,234.11
Lien Fees	\$5,735.21
TIF	\$2,970.00
Raise	\$126,592.68
Total	\$137,532.00

(Expended FY25/26 \$117,200.34)

Insurance

Article 38 To see if the town with raise, and appropriate \$32,050 for the cost of Property and Casualty, Workers Compensations and Unemployment Insurance for all Town Departments for the FY26/27.

Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend:

Carry	\$3,238.02
Raise	\$28,811.98
Total	\$32,050.00

(Expended FY25/26 \$25,961.98)

Cemeteries

Article 39. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$51,700 for Cemeteries for the FY 26/27. (Includes the remainder of the Tree Removal at Farewell Cemetery).

Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend:

Carry	7,901.40
Fordyce Fund	500.00
Donations	2,000.00
Cemetery Income	7,079.00
Perpetual Care Interest	5,000.00
Raise	29,219.60
Total	51,700.00

(Expended FY25/26 \$31,598.60)

General Assistance

Article 40. To see if the Town will vote to raise, and appropriate \$3,000.00 for General Assistance for the FY 26/27. The State reimburses 70% annually.

Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend:

Carry: \$3000

(Expended FY25/26 \$0)

Town Pump

Article 41. To see if the Town will vote to raise, and appropriate \$2,000 to cover maintenance for the town pump for FY26/27.

Selectboard and Budget Committee recommend:

Carry	\$1,188.51
Raise	\$811.49
Total	\$2,000.00

TIF

Article 42. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$30,000 from TIF to fund the Unity Pitmaster's Challenge?

Selectboard Recommends: TIF \$30,000 Budget Committee Recommends. \$0

Article 43. To see if the Town will vote to set the Secret Ballot Election on March 26, 2027, and Annual Town Business Meeting on March 27, 2027.

Article 44. Adjournment

Given under our hand this 3rd day of March 2026

Unity Municipal Officers



Antonio Avila



David Wakefield

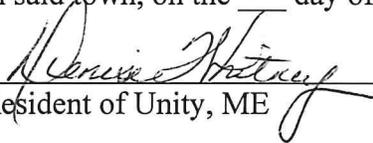


Christopher Shedyak

RETURN ON THE WARRANT

Unity, ME
Date: March 9th, 2026

Pursuant to the within warrant to me directed, I have notified and warned the Inhabitants of said Town, qualified as herein expressed, to meet at said time and place, and for the purposes therein named, by posting an attested copy of said warrant at the Unity Town Office, The Depot Store, USPS, Mac's Hardware Edwards Shop'n'Save in said town, being public and conspicuous places in said town, on the ___ day of March AD, 2026 being at least seven days before the meeting.



Resident of Unity, ME