

Town of Sedgwick
Annual Town Meeting Warrant 2025-2026
(Fiscal Year July 1– June 30)

Hancock, ss

State of Maine

To Leah Bamford, a resident of the Town of Sedgwick, in said County:

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Sedgwick, in said County and State qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Sedgwick Town House, 574 N. Sedgwick Road, in said Town on Friday the 14th day of March, 2025 A.D. at 12:45 p.m., then and there to act on Article 1 and, by secret ballot, on Articles 2 and 3, the polling hours to begin at 1 p.m. and close at 6 p.m., said articles being the following:

ARTICLES:

1. To choose a Moderator to preside over said Meeting.

NOTE: Articles 2 and 3 are set out in a written ballot to be acted upon Friday, March 14th. The polls will be open for voting at the aforementioned time and place. The meeting will reconvene Saturday, March 15^h at the Town House at 9:00 am and will run until adjourned by the moderator beginning with article 4.

2. Election by secret ballot of the following officials: 2nd Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor; 3-year term; and 2 seats on the School Committee, 3-year term.

3. To see if the Town will vote to raise \$49,300 for additional tuition payments to George Stevens Academy for fiscal year 2024-2025.

Note: This article addresses an official request from George Stevens Academy for an additional \$1,700 per student for fiscal year 2024-2025. This amount is in addition to the maximum tuition rate set by the State of Maine.

SECOND SESSION:

The Budget Committee has reviewed, discussed and endorsed the budget items presented by the selectmen and others.

4. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$200 from surplus for the research, development and maintenance of the town's Public Access account.

Prior year appropriated \$200 from surplus.

The budget committee recommends appropriating \$200 from surplus.

5. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$5,000 from surplus for the cleaning, sorting and stabilizing of historic Town Records.

Prior year appropriated \$5,000 from surplus.

The budget committee recommends appropriating \$5,000 from surplus.

6. To see if the Town will vote to continue to set October 31, 2025 as the date after which a rate of 7.5 percent per annum interest on unpaid taxes will be charged as set by the state.

7. To see if the Town will vote to set the interest rate paid for abated taxes at 4.25 percent as set by the state.
8. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the funds from the LRAP (Local Road Assistance Program) for Roads and Tarring and permit the fees collected for planning board permits and building notices for Administration.
9. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the compensation and/or rate of pay for Town Officials as follows:

Position	Proposed
1 st Selectman	\$10,000
2 nd Selectman	\$10,000
3 rd Selectman	\$10,000
Select Board Chairman	\$1,000
Tax Collector/Deputy Clerk/Assist/Registrar	\$62,400
80% Employer cont. Health Insurance	\$13,261
Interim Treasurer	\$21,000
Deputy Clerk	\$21,000
Code Enforcement Officer	\$10,000
Road Commissioner	State Rate + \$2.50/hr.
Planning Board Stipends	\$1,500

10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$500 and appropriate \$500 from surplus for the Town Office Repair account.

Prior year appropriated \$500 from surplus.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$500 and appropriating \$500 from surplus.

11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 and appropriate \$5,000 from surplus for Town Office Operations.

Prior year appropriated \$10,000 from surplus.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$5,000 and appropriating \$5,000 from surplus.

12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$9,000 and appropriate \$4,000 from surplus for the Town Office Equipment account.

Prior year raised \$13,000 from surplus.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$9,000 and appropriating \$4,000 from surplus.

13. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$2,000 from surplus for the Town House Repair account.

Prior year appropriated \$1,500 from surplus.

The budget committee recommends appropriating \$2,000 from surplus.

14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000 for Town House Operations.
Prior year raised \$650.
The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$1,000.
15. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from surplus \$3,000 for the upkeep and operation of the Town Dock.
Prior year appropriated \$3,000 from surplus.
The budget committee recommends appropriating \$3,000 from surplus
16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$40,000 for the repair and upkeep of Town Roads and Bridges.
Prior year raised \$40,000.
The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$40,000.
17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$15,000 and appropriate \$45,000 from surplus for Tarring town roads.
Prior year raised and appropriated \$15,000 and appropriated \$45,000 from surplus.
The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$15,000 and appropriating \$45,000 from surplus.
18. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate \$225,000 and appropriate \$60,000 from surplus for Snow Removal. (\$225,000 for snowplowing, \$60,000 for sand and salt.)
Prior year appropriated \$285,000
The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$225,000 and appropriating \$60,000 from surplus.
19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,750 for operating Streetlights.
Prior year raised \$1,750.
The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$1,750.
20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 for Septic Tank and Cesspool Sludge Disposal.
Prior year raised \$5,000.
The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$5,000.
21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$172,430 to compensate the Blue Hill/Surry Transfer Station.
Prior year raised and appropriated \$145,000.
The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$172,430
22. To see if the Town will authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepaid taxes not yet committed, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 506.

23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$210,000 and appropriate \$25,000 from surplus for Administration.

Prior year raised \$190,000 and appropriated \$30,000 from surplus

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$210,000 and appropriating \$25,000 from surplus.

24. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$8,000 from surplus for General Assistance.

Prior year appropriated \$10,000 from surplus.

The budget committee recommends appropriating \$8,000 from surplus.

25. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers of Sedgwick to dispose of any tax-acquired properties according to the process outlined in 36 M.R.S. §943-C. provided that, if the former owner does not request that process be used, or the board is unable to list or sell the property as required by §943-C(3), the board may sell the property through a competitive sealed bid process in which a notice advertising sale of the property shall be published at least twice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county. For sales to someone other than the former owner, exceed sale proceeds, as defined in 36 M.R. S § 943-C, shall be returned to the former owner.

26. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell or dispose of town equipment when it is deemed no longer needed or useful.

27. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to expend grant and/or stimulus monies received for the project(s) and purposes for which they are intended.

28. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to use money set aside in the Overlay account to pay tax abatements.

29. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to apply Excise Tax, Homestead Exemption, and Tree Growth funds for the purpose of reducing the tax commitment for the fiscal year.

30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,000 for the Legal Reserve account.

Prior year raised \$2,000.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$2,000.

31. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$75 for Civil Emergency Management expenses.

Prior year raised \$75.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$75.

32. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,005 for Sedgwick's share of the Hancock County Regional Communications Center (HCRCC) for dispatch services.

Prior year raised \$2,906.28

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$3,005.

33. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,500 for Hancock County Animal Control.

Prior year not applicable

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$2,500.

34. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from surplus \$500 for replacement of Road Signs.
Prior year appropriated \$500 from surplus.
The budget committee recommends appropriating \$500 from surplus.
35. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$59,500 for Fire Protection.
Prior year raised \$53,000.
The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$59,500.
36. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$50,000 from surplus for the Fire Equipment Reserve account.
Prior year appropriated \$50,000 from surplus.
The budget committee recommends appropriating \$50,000 from surplus.
37. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$1,000 from surplus for Forest Fire Fighting expenses.
Prior year appropriated \$1,000 from surplus.
The budget committee recommends appropriating \$1,000 from surplus.
38. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate \$11,500 for a new roof for the Sargentville Fire Station.
The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$11,500
39. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$100 for the Veteran's Graves account.
Prior year raised \$100.
The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$100.
40. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$15,000 and appropriate \$15,000 from surplus for the Sedgwick-Brooksville Town Landing at Walker Pond Reserve account.
Prior year appropriated \$15,000 from surplus.
The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$15,000 and appropriate \$15,000 from surplus.
41. To see if the Town will approve the amendment to the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance, dated June 18, 2022.
Amend page 13, Section B(1) first sentence reading:
and seventy-five (75) feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of other water bodies,

Change to read:
and one hundred (100) feet, horizontal distance, from the normal high-water line of other water bodies,
40. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to notify the Department of Marine Resources that the Town wishes to exercise its exclusive right to the alewives in the Town of Sedgwick during fiscal year 2025 (July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026) with the intent to restore and sustainably harvest this resource when appropriate.

Non-Profit Requests

41. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$39365.50 for the Peninsula Ambulance Corps.
Prior year \$34,855

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$39,365.50.

42. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$3,149.30 for Downeast Community Partners (WHCA & CFO).

Prior year \$7,017.54.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$3,149.30.

43. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,600 for WIC (Nutrition for Women, Infants, and Children) Services.

Prior year \$1,500.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$1,600.

44. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,000 for Hancock County Homecare & Hospice.

Prior year \$2,000.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$2,000.

45. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000 for Hospice Volunteers.

Prior year \$1,000.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$1,000.

46. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,500 for Eastern Area Agency on Aging.
Prior year \$1,500.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$1,500.

47. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 for the YMCA.

Prior year \$4,000.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$5,000

48. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$2,600 for Nichols Day Camp.

Prior year \$0

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$2,600.

49. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$600 for the Sargentville Library.

Prior year \$600.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$600.

50. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$600 for the Sedgwick Library.

Prior year \$600.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$600.

51. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$6,886 for the Blue Hill Library.

Prior year \$6,678.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$6,886.

52. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$601 for LifeFlight.

Prior year \$601.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$601.

53. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$100 for Maine Public.

Prior year \$100.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$0.

54. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$800 for Families First.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$800.

55. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,000 for Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry.

The budget committee recommends raising and appropriating \$4,000.

Sedgwick School Budget 2025-2026

56. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend \$1,439,684.77 for Pre-K-12 Regular Instruction.

School Committee recommends: \$1,439,684.77.

This article includes elementary education, secondary education and gifted/talented accounts.

Prior year \$1,585,128.88

57. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend \$773,007.74 for Special Education.

School Committee recommends: \$773,007.74

This article includes special education instruction and special education administration accounts.

Prior year \$718,218.21.

58. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend \$20,000.00 on Career & Technical Education.

School Committee recommends: \$20,000.00.

This article includes the Career & Technical account.

Prior year \$22,500.00.

59. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend \$27,395.25 for Other Instruction.

School Committee Recommends: \$27,395.25.

This article includes co-curricular and extra-curricular accounts.

Prior year \$26,230.25

60. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend \$147,548.72 for Student and Staff Support.

School Committee Recommends: \$147,548.72

This article includes guidance, health services, instructional technology, curriculum development, staff training, library and student assessment accounts.

Prior year \$116,096.20

61. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend \$187,735.11 for System Administration.

School Committee Recommends: \$187,735.11

This article includes the school committee, superintendent's office, and central office services accounts.

Prior year \$151,295.81

62. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend \$176,712.38 for School Administration.

School Committee Recommends: \$176,712.38

This article includes the principal office account.

Prior year \$160,477.54

63. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend \$278,892.00 for Transportation and Buses.

School Committee Recommends: \$278,892.00

This article includes the school bus contract and bus fuel accounts.

Prior year \$251,839.69

64. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend \$349,982.46 for Facilities Maintenance.

School Committee Recommends: \$349,982.46

This article includes building maintenance and operation accounts.

Prior year \$379,263.58

65. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the School Committee to expend in All Other Expenditures.

School Board Recommends: \$0

Prior Year \$0

66. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$1,584,475.00 for the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act (School Committee recommends \$1,584,475.00 and to see if the town will vote to raise \$1,584,475.00 as the town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes Title 20-A, §15688.

School Committee Recommends: \$1,584,475.00

Prior year \$1,547,314.66

State-Mandated Explanation: The Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act is the amount of money determined by state law to be the minimum amount \$1,584,475.00 that the town must raise in order to receive the estimated amount (\$317,557.74) of state dollars.

67. **(Written Ballot Required)** To see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$1,342,317.69 in additional local funds as required to fund the budget recommended by the school committee (School Committee Recommends \$1,342,317.69) which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model by \$1,342,317.69.

Prior year EPS exceeded by \$1,129,687.74

The School Committee gives the following reasons for exceeding The State's Essential Programs and Services allocation model:

The additional local fund request exceeds the EPS funding model because the school spends more per pupil on regular education, special education, transportation, student and staff support, administration and facilities maintenance than the EPS formula recognizes.

State-Mandated Explanation: The additional local funds are those locally raised funds over and above the town's local contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act and local amounts raised for the annual payment on non-state-funded debt service that will help achieve the Town's budget for educational programs.

68. To see if the Town will authorize the School Committee to expend \$3,401,138.43 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026 from the Town's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, additional local funds for school purposes under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20A, §15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, Local appropriations, state subsidy, school lunch revenues and other receipts for the support of schools.
School Committee Recommends: \$3,401,138.43.

Prior year \$3,411,050.16

69. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate \$59,493.12 for food service with authorization to expend any additional, incidental, or miscellaneous receipts in the interest and for the well-being of the food service program.

School Committee Recommends: \$59,493.12

Prior year \$26,384.40

70. Shall the Town vote to accept the categories of funds estimated below as provided by the Maine State Legislature?

<u>Category</u>	<u>Anticipated Amount</u>
E.S.E.A. Funds	\$63,162.61
State Minimum Subsidy	\$317,557.74
School Lunch Reimbursement	\$55,000.00
Special Educ. Local Entitlement	\$46,946.12
Other Unanticipated Funding	Unknown

71. To see if the Town will authorize the School Committee to expend grant monies in addition to expenditures approved in the regular school budget.
72. Shall the School Board be authorized to transfer amounts exceeding 5% of the total appropriation for any cost center to another cost center or among other cost centers for the 2025- 2026 fiscal year, provided that transfers shall not be permitted to increase the authorized total school budget?
Reasons: Under Maine Law only the voters can give authority for the School Committee to transfer in excess of 5% between cost centers. By granting this authority now, it would eliminate the calling of a special town meeting, if necessary, to balance accounts.

Given under our hands at Sedgwick, Maine, this 27TH day of Feb, 2025.

Susan Ford

Colby Pert

Barry Duffy

Sedgwick Selectmen

A true copy
Attest:

Cynthia Reilly
Clerk of Sedgwick, Maine