

# TOWN OF PATTEN

21 Katahdin Street | PO Box 260 | Patten, ME 04765

Phone (207) 528-2215 | Fax (207) 528-2055

[www.pattenmaine.org](http://www.pattenmaine.org)

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## Special Town Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 5:30pm

These Minutes are not verbatim.

The Special Town Meeting was called to order at 5:47pm.

**Article 1:** To choose a Moderator to preside at said Special Town Meeting.

Ed MacArthur announced that a Moderator could be chosen by a show of hands with a 2/3 vote.

**Motion** made by Rae Bates to allow a moderator to be chosen by a show of hands. Seconded by Cody Brackett. No discussion heard. **Approved** by majority show of hands.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to nominate Ed MacArthur to act as the moderator for the Special Town Meeting. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. No discussion heard. **Approved** by majority show of hands.

**Article 2:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to sign a Resolution in support of Wolfden Resource Corporation Pickett Mountain Mine and Associated Facilities.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to sign a Resolution in support of Wolfden Resource Corporation Pickett Mountain Mine and Associated Facilities. Seconded by Rebecca Phillips. A letter from Susan Adams was read by Rae Bates. The letter is attached to these Minutes. **Approved 75:46** by written ballot.

**Article 3:** To see if the Town will vote to approve the Solar Energy Systems Ordinance.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to approve the Solar Energy Systems Ordinance. Seconded by Cody Brackett. No discussion heard. **Approved** by majority show of hands.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:18pm.**

## Letter from Susan Adams

“I am a resident of Patten and would like to express my thoughts on this resolution to support Wolfden Mining and their most recent efforts just north of Patten.

Putting industrial metal mining above our quality of life up here in Patten and the other surrounding communities would be a grave mistake with no thought of our future generations and its potential future residents.

Clean water is life and something that every single one of us needs and deserves.

I grew up downriver of multiple industries placed along the Penobscot River ,who back 100 years ago put industry above quality of life. It got to the point where my parents could not allow us to go swimming and the fishermen disappeared from my beautiful Penobscot Bay. I doubt anyone predicted this sort of future for the bay back then.

I have visited the headwaters of this very section of the Mattawamkeag River that would be at risk with my son. We paddled the ponds and explored below the old stone dam. Isolated and beautiful , wildlife was plentiful, the lakes and rivers clean and clear, definitely class A nurseries for native brook trout and land locked salmon. I urge you to take the time to go see this for yourselves, in case you decide to support this type of mining , so you can describe to your great grandchildren what it “used to be like”. When I heard about Wolfden’s first application, I educated myself to the facts, like when exposed, sulfide deposits or tailings to oxygen and water, form sulfuric acid, they can leach heavy metals like lead, arsenic, and mercury from the surrounding rock. These amazing fisheries could be threatened by this toxic byproduct, known as acid mine drainage. Are we prepared to leave to our grandchildren streams and lakes like this, destroying the fisheries? How will it affect our neighbors downstream ?

I sat in on the very early LUPC discussions when this project was first proposed. I sent them my letter of concern way back then.

I have seen first-hand the bright, orange-colored streams in rural West Virginia, but I never imagined Mainers could risk this happening here.

Yesterday I had the opportunity to discuss Patten with the economic director of the town of Rumford. He urged me to tell you all to really think about the future . Industry should not affect quality of life, but it often and inevitably can if we are not constantly vigilant, and we don’t do our homework. He said several times, “tell them how vital clean water is to their quality of life “and to please take the time to educate themselves on their own, not through Wolfden.”

Please Vote NO for this unnecessary resolution and think about asking the Patten planning board to draft an ordinance to protect our wells and watersheds from an industrial metal mining disaster in the future. If I could be there, I would be voting no to this resolution and am praying that the majority of you consider doing the same.

Thank you,  
Susan Adams  
Resident of Patten”

Meeting Minutes for Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023.  
Respectfully submitted by,

Laura A. White  
Deputy Town Clerk  
Town of Patten

Minutes approved on June 13, 2023

<u>Cody A B</u>	Chairman Cody Brackett
<u>Gregg Smallwood</u>	Vice Chair Gregg Smallwood
<u>- Absent -</u>	Dennis Kelly
<u>Rae Bates</u>	Rae Bates
<u>Janice Dancer</u>	Janice Dancer

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## 2023 Annual Town Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 7:00PM

Public Works Garage, 21 Katahdin Street

Patten, ME 04765

These minutes are not verbatim.

Audio copies of the meeting are available at the Town Office

**The Annual Town Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm.**

**ARTICLE 1:** To choose a Moderator to preside at said Town Meeting.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to nominate Ed McArthur as Moderator of the Annual Town Meeting. Seconded by Barbara Webb. All in favor.

**ARTICLE 2:** To see if the Town will vote to nominate and elect the following officers to serve for the periods so indicated.

### **Budget Committee**

- Three (3) 2-year terms; to expire in 2025

**Motion** made by Rae Bates to nominate Donald Adams, David Michaud, and Kathy Howes for 2-year terms on the Budget Committee. Seconded by D. Michaud. All in favor.

- One (1) 3-year term; to expire in 2026

**Motion** made by D. Michaud to nominate Doris DeRespino for a 3-year term on the Budget Committee. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. All in favor.

- One (1) 5-year term; to expire in 2028

**Motion** made by Donald Adams to nominate Henry Rauschnot for a 5-year term on the Budget Committee. All in favor.

### **Cemetery Trustees**

- Three (3) 2-year terms; to expire in 2025

**No motion made.**

- Two (2) 3-year terms; to expire in 2026

**Motion** made by Kerry McNally to nominate himself for a 3-year term on the Cemetery Trustees. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. All in favor.

**Board of Tax Review**

- Two (2) 2-year terms; to expire in 2025

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to nominate Donald Adams for a 2-year term on the Board of Tax Review. Seconded by Rae Bates. All in favor.

- One (1) 3-year term; to expire in 2026

**No motion made.**

**Motion** made by Charlie McLaughlin to vote on Article 45. Seconded by John Birmingham. All in favor.

**ARTICLE 45:** To see if the town will vote to transfer title of the Old Baptist Church located at 30 Main Street Patten, Maine to the Patten Historical Society pending review of the transfer by legal counsel.

**Motion** made by David Michaud to transfer title of the Old Baptist Church located at 30 Main Street in Patten to the Patten Historical Society pending review of the transfer by legal counsel. Seconded by Rae Bates. Vote taken by written ballot. **Motion passed 82:5**, Eighty-two (82) in favor. Five (5) opposed. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 3:** To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Selectmen to appoint OTHER TOWN OFFICERS.

**Motion** made by Kevin Noyes to instruct the Selectmen to appoint other Town Officers. Seconded by Gregg Smallwood. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 4:** To see if the Town will vote to carry forward the balances of the accounts as listed once the audit has been completed.

<b>Committed For:</b>	
Fire Building	Culture & Recreation
Fire Truck	Community Celebrations
Highway Equipment	Tax Maps & Revaluation
Highway Roads	Patten Academy Park
Municipal Building	Grant Writing
Veterans' Monument	Technology
Cemetery Perpetual Care	CDBG & DEP Grants

**Motion** made by Kevin Noyes to carry forward the balances of the accounts as listed once the audit has been completed. Seconded by Gregg Smallwood. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town will vote to carry all other Balances to Fund Balance once the audit has been completed.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to carry all other Balances of Fund Balance once the audit has been completed. Seconded by David Michaud. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for **CEMETERY OPERATIONS.**

<b>CEMETERY</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Local Taxes	\$ 14,900	\$ 16,450
Revenues	\$ 7,100	\$ 7,000
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$22,000</b>	<b>\$23,450</b>

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Cemetery Operations. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. Prices All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for **ANIMAL CONTROL:**

<b>ANIMAL CONTROL</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Local Taxes	\$ 1,900	\$ 3,650
Revenues	\$ 100	\$ 100
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,750</b>

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Animal Control. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for **STREET LIGHTS.**

<b>STREET LIGHTS</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Local Taxes	\$ 20,000	\$ 17,000
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$17,000</b>

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Street Lights. Seconded by Louise Guptill. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for **FIRE PROTECTION FEE** (*previously "hydrant rental"*).

<b>FIRE PROTECTION</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Local Taxes	\$ 26,000	\$ 26,000
Fund Balances	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$26,000</b>	<b>\$26,000</b>

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Fire Protection. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for **the FIRE DEPARTMENT.**

<b>FIRE DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Local Taxes	\$ 67,500	\$117,200
Revenues	\$ 12,650	\$ 12,650
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$80,150</b>	<b>\$129,850</b>

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for the Fire Department. Seconded by David Michaud. Discussion of what the increase is for. **Article passed with three (3) opposed.**

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the officers to spend \$10,000 for the **FIRE TRUCK RESERVE**.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend \$10,000 for the Fire Truck Reserve. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. Discussion to make Article verbiage more specific that the purpose of the Fire Truck Reserve is to purchase a new fire truck in the future. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for **MUNICIPAL TRASH**.

<b>MUNICIPAL TRASH</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Local Taxes	\$ 26,200	\$ 25,782
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$26,200</b>	<b>\$25,782</b>

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Municipal Trash. Seconded by Louise Guptill. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for **SEPTAGE DISPOSAL**.

<b>SEPTAGE</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Local Taxes	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,900
Revenues	\$ 8,100	\$ 8,100
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Septage Disposal. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS**.

<b>HIGHWAY DEPT</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Local Taxes	\$ 83,283	\$ 148,148
Revenues	\$ 52,500	\$ 52,500
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$135,783</b>	<b>\$200,648</b>

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for David Michaud. Seconded by David Michaud. **Article passed with four (4) opposed.**

**ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and authorize the Officers to spend on **HIGHWAY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS**.

<b>HWY CAP IMPROVEMENTS</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Revenue/Excise Tax	\$116,500	\$116,500
Reserves	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$116,500</b>	<b>\$116,500</b>

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Highway Capital Improvements. Seconded by David. Discussion about holding a special Town meeting to create a five-to-ten-year road repair plan and to raise funds for road repairs. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 16:** If Article 15 is approved, to see if the Town will vote to transfer any remaining unexpended funds for Highway Capital Improvements to the **Highway Capital Road Reserve** at the end of FY 2023, and to further authorize the select board to make expenditures from the account thereafter for these purposes without further vote of the town.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to transfer any remaining unexpended funds for Highway Capital Improvements to the Highway Capital Road Reserve at the end of FY 2023, and to further authorize the Select Board to make expenditures from the account thereafter for these purposes without further vote to the Town. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the officers to spend \$10,000 for the **HIGHWAY CAPITAL EQUIPMENT RESERVE**.

**Motion** made by John Roy to amend Article 17 to state “To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to contribute \$10,000 for the Highway Capital Equipment Reserve.” Seconded by Kevin Noyes. All in favor. Amendment passed.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to contribute \$10,000 for the Highway Capital Equipment Reserve. Seconded by David Michaud. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for **WINTER ROADS**.

<b>WINTER ROADS</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Local Taxes	\$ 78,909	\$ 88,900
Revenue/Excise Tax	\$ 95,000	\$ 95,000
Carry-Forward	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$173,909</b>	<b>\$183,900</b>

**Motion** made by Kevin Noyes to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Winter Roads. Seconded by Gregg Smallwood. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 19:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for **GENERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**.

<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Local Taxes	\$122,062	\$243,520
Revenues	\$115,000	\$121,000
Fund Balance	\$ 45,000	\$ -
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$282,062</b>	<b>\$364,520</b>

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for General Government Operations. Seconded by David Michaud. Discussion about the increase for Town Office salaries, insurance, and supplies. **Article passed with four (4) opposed.**

**ARTICLE 20:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for **GENERAL ASSISTANCE**.

<b>GENERAL ASSISTANCE</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Local Taxes	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for General Assistance. Seconded by David Michaud. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for **TAX ABATEMENTS**.

<b>TAX ABATEMENTS</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Local Taxes	\$ 2,000	\$ 2000
Fund Balance	\$ 18,000	\$ 0
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Tax Abatements. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the officers to spend \$10,000 for the **TAX MAP AND REVALUATION RESERVE**.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to amend Article 22 to state “To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to contribute \$10,000 for the Tax Map and Revaluation Reserve.” Seconded by David Michaud. **Motion rescinded.**

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Tax Map and Revaluation Reserve. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 23:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for **LIBRARY OPERATIONS**. *Note: Budget supports library operations at the Patten Lumbermen’s Museum.*

<b>LIBRARY</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Local Taxes	\$ 14,880	\$ 43,750
Income	\$ -	\$ 600
Culture & Recreation Reserve	\$ 20,000	\$ 0
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$34,880</b>	<b>\$44,350</b>

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Library Operations. Seconded by David Michaud. Discussion around the purpose of the Corriveau Fund. Town Manager, Gail Albert, stated the Corriveau Fund has not been used for any reason over the last year. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 24:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for **PARKS AND RECREATION OPERATIONS.**

<b>PARKS &amp; REC</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Local Taxes	\$ 14,700	\$ 23,900
<i>Donation for Playground</i>	\$ -	\$ 5,000
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$14,700</b>	<b>\$28,900</b>

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Parks and Recreation Operations. Seconded by David Michaud. Discussion around the increase being for mowing, playground, tennis, and basketball courts. Further discussion around the future of the Recreation Building. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 25:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the officers to spend \$500 for the **COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS RESERVE.**

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Community Celebrations Reserve. Seconded by David Michaud. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 26:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the officers to spend \$2,000 for the **PATTEN ACADEMY PARK RESERVE.**

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Patten Academy Park Reserve. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 27:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for **NON-MUNICIPAL ORGANIZATIONS.**

<b>NON-MUNICIPAL</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Patten Little League	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Patten Playground Committee	\$ 2,000	\$ -
Patten Lumbermen’s Museum	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Patten Historical Society	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Patten ATV Club	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Patten Area Women’s Club	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
Eastern Area Agency on Aging	\$ 400	\$ 400
Patten Community Food Cupboard	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Masonic Lodge	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$10,900</b>	<b>\$ 8,900</b>

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Non-Municipal Organizations. Seconded by David Michaud. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 28:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Officers to spend for **AMBULANCE SERVICE OPERATIONS.**

<b>AMBULANCE</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Revenues	\$ 445,206	\$544,793
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$ 445,206</b>	<b>\$544,793</b>

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Ambulance Service Operations. Seconded by David Michaud. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 29:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Officers to spend on **WATER DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS.**

<b>WATER DEPT</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Local Taxes	\$ -	\$ 4,755
Revenues	\$ 72,955	\$ 79,500
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$72,955</b>	<b>\$84,505</b>

**Motion** made by Donald Adams to appropriate \$0 for Water Department Operations. Seconded by Louise Guptill. **Motion failed with twelve (12) in favor.**

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Water Department Operations. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. Discussion around taxpayers subsidizing water, despite most residents not using Town water. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 30:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the officers to spend for **SEWER DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS.**

<b>SEWER DEPT</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
Local Taxes	\$ 15,950	\$ 23,950
Revenues	\$ 20,500	\$ 22,000
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$ 36,450</b>	<b>\$45,950</b>

*Each year sewer operations cost more than the department earns; the portion of expenses that cannot be paid with revenues are recognized as a deficit to the Sewer Department which must be covered through raising taxes.*

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend for Sewer Department Operations. Seconded by David Michaud. Discussion around contacting Public Utilities Commission to raise rates. **Article passed with twenty (20) in favor, nine (9) opposed.**

**ARTICLE 31:** To see if the Town would vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Patten, by State Law, if the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limit.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Patten, by State Law, if the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limit. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. **Article passed with seven (7) opposed.**

**ARTICLE 32:** To see if the Town will vote to charge interest on 2023 taxes unpaid as of a certain date. All checks will be credited as of the date the Town receives payment. If so, what rate of interest and what date?

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to charge an interest rate of 8% on 2023 taxes unpaid as of sixty (60) days from the commitment date. All checks will be credited as of the date the Town receives payment. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 33:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes for the Year 2024 not yet due or committed pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 506, for the purpose of conducting a TWELVE PAYMENT TAX CLUB, beginning January 1 and ending December 31, 2024 with interest to accrue on any unpaid balance after December 31<sup>st</sup> ; and to accept prepayment of taxes for the Year 2024 from anyone wishing to make any early payment on the 2024 taxes from January 1, 2024 to the date of commitment.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes for the Year 2024 not yet due or committed pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. § 506, for the purpose of conducting a Twelve Payment Tax Club, beginning January 1 and ending December 31, 2024 with interest to accrue on any unpaid balance after December 31<sup>st</sup> ; and to accept prepayment of taxes for the Year 2024 from anyone wishing to make any early payment on the 2024 taxes from January 1, 2024 to the date of commitment. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. Discussion around what prevents Tax Club revenue from being spent in 2023. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 34:** To see if the Town will vote NOT TO PAY INTEREST to participants of the tax club and all other early payments of taxes not yet due or assessed.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to not pay interest to participants of the tax club and all other early payments of taxes not yet due or assessed. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 35:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Officers on behalf of the Town to sell or dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes or liens, both real estate and sewer, and if sold, on such terms as are legally permitted and are deemed advisable, and to execute a quit claim deed on the conveyance of such property. The Board reserves the option to retain property if the market value is not favorable and to retain property if they feel it is needed for town use.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to authorize the Officers on behalf of the Town to sell or dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes or liens, both real estate and sewer, and if sold, on such terms as are legally permitted and are deemed advisable, and to execute a quit claim deed on the conveyance of such property. The Board reserves the option to retain property if the market value is not favorable and to retain property if they feel it is needed for town use. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. **Article passed with three (3) opposed.**

**ARTICLE 36:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Officers to purchase, acquire, or exchange such equipment as deemed necessary for the operation and maintenance of an Ambulance Service, Fire Department, and/or repairs of roads and properties within the Town and to sell, barter, transfer, or salvage any equipment deemed surplus or beyond economical repair.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to authorize the Officers to purchase, acquire, or exchange such equipment as deemed necessary for the operation and maintenance of an Ambulance Service, Fire Department, and/or repairs of roads and properties within the Town and to sell, barter, transfer, or salvage any equipment deemed surplus or beyond economical repair. Seconded by David Michaud. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 37:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to receive incidental fees and receipts and to credit such revenues to the correspondent accounts.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to authorize the Treasurer to receive incidental fees and receipts and to credit such revenues to the correspondent accounts. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 38:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and authorize the Officers to spend the incidental fees and receipts cited in Article 37.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to appropriate and authorize the Officers to spend the incidental fees and receipts cited in Article 37. Seconded by Kevin Noyes. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 39:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer Town funds received from the State of Maine for Snowmobile Registrations and Snowmobile Grants to the ROCKABEMA SNOW RANGERS CLUB providing the club shall use such revenues for projects benefiting the public.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to transfer Town funds received from the State of Maine for Snowmobile Registrations and Snowmobile Grants to the Rockabema Snow Rangers Club providing the club shall use such revenues for projects benefiting the public. Seconded by David Michaud. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 40:** To see if the Town will vote to transfer Town funds received from the State of Maine for ATV Grants to the PATTEN ATV CLUB providing the club shall use such revenues for projects benefiting the public.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to transfer Town funds received from the State of Maine for ATV Grants to the PATTEN ATV CLUB providing the club shall use such revenues for projects benefiting the public. Seconded by Scott Harmsen. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 41:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to apply for Federal, State of Maine and other grants, on behalf of the Town, in the general operations of the Town and other funds, to make such assurances and exercise such authority necessary and reasonable to implement such programs as they deem advisable.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to authorize the Municipal Officers to apply for Federal, State of Maine and other grants, on behalf of the Town, in the general operations of the Town and other funds, to make such assurances and exercise such authority necessary and reasonable to implement such programs as they deem advisable. Seconded by David Michaud. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 42:** Shall the Town vote to accept the categories of funds listed below as provided by the State of Maine Legislature (MRSA Title 30-A, Subsection 5682)

- Bureau of Conservation
- Excise Tax
- State Revenue Sharing
- Veterans Exemption Reimbursement
- Tree Growth Reimbursement
- General Assistance Reimbursement
- Property Tax Relief Funds
- Secretary of State Reimbursement
- Homestead Exemption Reimbursement
- Civil Emergency (FEMA/MEMA)
- Library State Aid
- Snowmobile Grants/ Revenues
- Snowmobile Registrations
- Department of Environmental Protection Grants/Funds
- Department of Economic & Community Development Grants/Funds
- Department of Transportation Local Road Assistance
- Other Federal and State funds not listed above.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to accept the categories of funds listed above as provided by the State of Maine Legislature (MRSA Title 30-A, Subsection 5682). Seconded by Scott Harmsen. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 43:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to spend an amount not to exceed 25% of the estimated budget amount in each category of the Patten Annual Budget for the period of January 1, 2024, to April 25, 2024.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to authorize the Municipal Officers to spend an amount not to exceed 25% of the estimated budget amount in each category of the Patten Annual Budget for the period of January 1, 2024, to April 25, 2024. Seconded by David Michaud. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**ARTICLE 44:** To see if the Town will vote to set the date and time of the next TOWN MEETING to be held in 2024.

**Motion** made by Gregg Smallwood to hold the next Town Meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 6:00pm. Seconded by David Michaud. All in favor. **Article passed.**

**Annual Town Meeting adjourned at 9:29pm.**

Annual Town Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Respectfully submitted by,

Laura A. White  
Deputy Town Clerk  
Town of Patten

Minutes approved on August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

<u>Cody A. Brackett</u>	Gody Brackett, Chair
<u>Gregg Smallwood</u>	Gregg Smallwood, Vice-Chair
<u>Dennis Kelly</u>	Dennis Kelly
<u>Rae Bates</u>	Rae Bates
<u>Janice Dancer</u>	Janice Dancer

# TOWN OF PATTEN

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Phone (207) 528-2215 | Fax (207) 528-2055

[www.pattenmaine.org](http://www.pattenmaine.org)

## Special Town Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 5:30PM

Public Works Garage, 21 Katahdin Street

Patten, ME 04765

These minutes are not verbatim.

Audio copies of the meeting are available at the Town Office

**Article 1:** To choose a Moderator to preside at said Special Town Meeting.

**Motion** made by Laura Kenney nominate Nathan Richardson as moderator. Seconded by Julie Buhler. Votes were taken by written ballot. **Motion passed with nineteen (19) in favor.**

**Article 2:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Officers, on behalf of the Town, to appropriate donated funds and gifts to the Parks and Recreation Fund and authorize to expense these funds to repair the Parks and Recreation building.

**Motion** Gregg Smallwood. Seconded by Scott Webb. Discussion around adding stipulations to money donated. Money donated may be accepted and spent by a Town, however, if there are stipulations added, the Town must hold a meeting to vote.

**Article passed.**

**Article 3:** To see if the Town will vote to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend an additional \$50,000 for General Government Operations related to CODE Enforcement activities and real estate acquired by the Town.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT	2022	Original 2023	Updated 2023
Local Taxes	\$122,062	\$243,520	\$293,520
Revenues	\$115,000	\$121,000	\$121,000
Fund Balance	\$ 45,000	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$282,062</b>	<b>\$364,520</b>	<b>\$414,520</b>

**Motion** made by Rae Bates to raise, appropriate, and authorize the Officers to spend an additional \$50,000 for General Government Operations related to Code Enforcement activities and real estate acquired by the Town. Second Gregg Smallwood. **Article passed.**

**Town Meeting adjourned at 5:52pm.**

Special Town Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Respectfully submitted by,

Laura A. White  
Deputy Town Clerk  
Town of Patten

Minutes approved on August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Gregg Smallwood Gregg Smallwood, Vice-Chair

Dennis Kelly Dennis Kelly

Rae Bates Rae Bates

Janice Dancer Janice Dancer