

TOWN OF SMITHFIELD ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

To: Meredyth Tuttle a resident of the Town of Smithfield, in said county of Somerset and 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 Smithfield qualified to vote in Town affairs, to assemble in said Town, at the Municipal Building (926 Village Rd), Saturday March 14, 2026, at eight forty-five o'clock (8:45 AM) in the morning to elect a moderator to preside at said meeting, and to elect officers for the ensuing year. Polls are open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with the Registrar of Voters present to correct lists of voters.

The Inhabitants of the Town of Smithfield qualified to vote in Town affairs are hereby warned to assemble at the Municipal Building (926 Village Rd) at six o'clock (6:00 p.m.), March 14, 2026, to act on Article 3 to the end of the Warrant.

Art. 1. To elect a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Art. 2. To proceed with voting by secret ballot as directed and provided by statutes, on election of Town officers.

Art. 3. To see if the town would vote to EXCEED the property tax levy limit of **\$805,615.00** established for Smithfield by State law if the municipal budget approved under the following articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limit. **(Secret Ballot Process)**

Art. 4. To see if the Town will vote to use SNOWMOBILE REGISTRATION REFUND for the Moonshiner's Snowmobile Club.

Art. 5. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to sell cemetery lots within the Town of Smithfield for \$300.00 per lot. (lot size 10' x 20')

Art. 6. To see if the Town will vote to charge a \$20.00 fee, in addition to the amount of the check, for any check returned unpaid by the bank for any reason.

Art. 7. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the municipal officers to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount in each budget category of the 2026-27 annual budget during the period from February 1, 2027, to the March 2027 Annual Town Meeting.

Art. 8. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to borrow on the credit of the Town a sum of money sufficient to cover the running of the Town between the close of the books and the Annual Town Meeting.

Art. 9. To see if the Town will vote to set the interest rate payable by the Town on prepaid abated taxes at four (4.0%) percent pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A section 506-A.

Art. 10. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept Monies prior to the tax commitment.

Art. 11. To see if the Town will vote to allow a one and a half (1.5%) percent discount, if requested, on all real and personal taxes paid in full within 30 days after the date of mailing the tax bills.

Art. 12. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to proceed according to town policy whereby tax acquired real property shall be managed, administered, and disposed of by the Town in accordance with 36 NRS § 942 and 943, as amended. The Selectmen may offer the property for sale to the immediate prior owner for all past due taxes, accrued interest and costs, and a \$75.00 cost to cover administrative costs associated with the tax lien foreclosure process, prior to disposing of the property in the manner that the Select Board deem to be in the best interest of the Town. The Select Board reserve the right to waive foreclosure on any tax lien during the course of the fiscal year, leaving the tax lien in full force and effect as provided for in 36 NRS § 944.

Art. 13. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to borrow on temporary loan or loans within the fiscal year ending January 31, 2027, in anticipation of taxes for purposes of paying obligations of the Town, such loans to be paid during the said fiscal year.

Art. 14. To see if the Town will vote to make taxes due and payable when billed, with a charge of seven (7.00%) percent per annum on all unpaid taxes as of November 30, 2026. All taxes unpaid as of November 30, 2026, will be published in the Town Report as delinquent taxpayers.

Art. 15. To see if the Town will vote to accept the following categories of State and Federal Funds during the 2026 fiscal year (2/1/26-1/31/27):

- Municipal Revenue Sharing
- Local Road Assistance
- State Aid to Education (including Federal pass-through funds and property Tax relief)
- Civil Emergency Funds (Emergency Management Assistance)
- Snowmobile Registration Money
- Tree Growth Reimbursement
- General Assistance Reimbursement
- Veterans Exemption Reimbursement
- State and Federal Grants or Other Funds (this category includes all funds received from the State and Federal that are not included in items above.)

Art. 16. To see if the Town will vote to set the pay for laborers and equipment not to exceed State rates for roads.

Art. 17. To see if the Town will vote to accept and utilize **\$512,107.00** in estimated revenues to reduce tax commitment.

MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE TAX	\$300,000.00
WATERCRAFT EXCISE TAX	\$4,700.00
STATE MUNICIPAL REVENUE SHARING	\$115,000.00
LOCAL ROAD ASSISTANCE	\$30,000.00
VETERAN'S REIMBURSEMENT	\$665.00
INTEREST ON TAXES & LIENS	\$9,000.00
TREE GROWTH REIMBURSEMENT	\$9,926.00
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$42,816.00

Art. 18. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to dispose of surplus Town-owned personal property in a manner that the Board determines to be in the best interest of the Town of Smithfield.

Art. 19. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate **\$50,000** for the principal payment and **\$910.00** for the interest payments due for the Fire Tanker Engine bond payment. (Payment 5 of 6)

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$26,000.00** for the thirty (30) day one and a half (1.5%) percent discounts account.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 21. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from **SURPLUS \$2,299.18** for an overdraft in the 30-day Discount Account.

Art. 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$50,000.00** to pave the gravel section of Sand Hill Rd.

Budget Committee Recommends: No

Art. 23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$200,000.00** to use for payments of goods and services for town-owned roads in the Paving and Reconstruction Road Reserve Account. (Current Balance \$372,401.11) (Annual **Roadblock Grant \$30,000.00** will be used for Paving)

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 24. To see if the Town will vote to set the pay of Town Officials/Employees and to raise and appropriate \$204,348.70 and appropriate from SURPLUS \$275.00 as follows:

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
	Salary	Expenses	Total	Acct
1st Select Board Member	\$4,000.00	\$750.00	\$4,750.00	GG
2nd Select Board Member	\$4,000.00	\$750.00	\$4,750.00	GG
3rd Select Board Member	\$4,000.00	\$750.00	\$4,750.00	GG
Administrative Assistant	\$36.32hr.		\$85,000.00	GG
Treasurer	\$5,040.00	\$500.00	\$5,540.00	GG
Tax Collector	1 1/4% RE&PP	4% Excise	\$45,000.00	GG
Town Clerk	\$9,469.00	\$500.00	\$9,969.00	GG
Deputy Town Clerk	\$15.10 hr.		\$500.00	GG
Registrar of Voters	\$2,730.00	\$250.00	\$2,980.00	GG
Animal Control Officer	\$200 month + mileage		\$2,650.00	GG
Health Officer	\$250.00		\$250.00	GG
Code Enforcement Officer	Stipend	+ mileage	\$16,709.70	GG
Election Officials	\$15.10 hr.		\$4,000.00	GG
Budget Committee	\$25.00	Per meeting	\$625.00	GG
Planning Board	\$25.00	Per meeting	\$2,150.00	GG
Appeals Board-Surplus	\$25.00	Per meeting	\$275.00	GG
Moderator	\$100 over 4hrs \$50.00 less 4hrs		\$250.00	GG
Assessing Agent	1 year contract		\$11,475.00	GG
Road Commissioner	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$3,000.00	GG

Art. 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,909.00 for the Kennebec Valley Council of Government.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$750.00 for Kennebec Valley Regional Super Park.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Fiscal Year 2/1/2026-1/31/2027

Art. 27. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$183,670.32** for General Expense. (Category breakdown-*Building & Utility \$55,989.00, Office Supply \$77,727.50, and Insurances \$49,953.82*) (See 2025 General Expense detail in the Selectmen's Ledger Report)

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 28. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from **SURPLUS \$13,161.26** for an overdraft in the Fire Department Salary & Expenses Account.

Art. 29. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$63,750.00** for Fire Department Salary & Expenses Account. (Includes Officer stipends and \$18.50 hr. for calls and training)

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$76,050.00** for the Fire Department Operations Account. (See 2025 Operations expense details in the Selectmen's Ledger Report)

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 31. To see if the Town will vote to have any balance left in the Fire Department Operation Account lapse to the Fire Department Contingency Fund at the end of the fiscal year.

Art. 32. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$55,500.00** for the Delta Ambulance Service Contract. (Based on \$60.00 per capita, 925)

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 33. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$6,000.00** for Workers Compensation.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 34. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$5,000.00** for the electricity of Street Lights.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 35. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$60,952.00** and appropriate from **SUPRLUS \$5,000.00** for Waste Management Disposal Service using the Norridgewock facility.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 36. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$28,344.00** and appropriate from **SURPLUS \$945.00** for Cemeteries-General Care Account.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Fiscal Year 2/1/2026-1/31/2027

Art. 37. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$5,400.00** for the start of surveying lots for the new section of Gould Cemetery.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 38. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$3,000.00** for General Assistance.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 39. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$279,716.00** for RBC Winter Roads. (Includes 4 winter contracts, salt & sand purchases, trucking and snow removal)

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 40. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$42,000.00** for RBC General Repairs.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 41. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$6,000.00** RBC Resurfacing.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 42. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$12,000.00** for RBC Grading.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 43. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$600.00** for RBC Storm Debris Removal.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 44. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$12,000.00** for RBC Brush/Overhang Maintenance.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 45. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$900.00** for E911 Road Signs Maintenance and Installation.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 46. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from **SURPLUS** up to **\$10,000.00** to meet unanticipated expenses and emergencies, which may occur during the fiscal year ending January 31, 2027.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 47. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$7,500.00** for 7 Lakes Alliance. (Conservation Corp. & Aquatic Invasive Species Program)

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Fiscal Year 2/1/2026-1/31/2027

Art. 48. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$4,000.00** for the East Pond Association.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 49. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$4,000.00** for the North Pond Association.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 50. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,500.00** for Smithfield Maine Historical Society.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 51. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,000.00** for The Smithfield Moonshiners Snowmobile Club.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 52. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,750.00** for Spectrum Generations.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 53. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$324.00** for the Sexual Assault Crisis & Support Center.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 54. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$250.00** for the Winslow Community Cupboard. (Smithfield residents utilize the mobile food trailer)

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 55. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,000.00** for Hospice of Somerset County.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 56. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,650.00** a scholarship to be awarded to a graduating Smithfield students, with the highest-grade point average, who will be continuing their education after graduating from S.A.H.S. The Skowhegan Area High School Scholarship Committee will determine the award recipients. (2025 recipients where Sydni Benner and James Weeks)

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 57. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$8,085.00** and appropriate from **SURPLUS \$4,700.00** for Recreation Account.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Fiscal Year 2/1/2026-1/31/2027

Art. 58. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$19,750.50** for the Assessing Revaluation Reserve Account. (Current balance \$119,749.50) (Start will be in the Fall of 2026 and finalize for taxes for August 2027 tax bills)

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 59. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **20,000.00** for Capital Improvements Reserve. (Current Balance \$53,935.06)

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 60. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$1,000.00** for the Anniversary Reserve. (Current Balance \$6,689.16)

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 61. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$30,000.00** for the Equipment Reserve. (Current Balance \$138,403.41)

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 62. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$3,000.00** for the Tax Mapping Updates.

Budget Committee Recommends: Yes

Art. 63. Do you favor changing the Municipal Sexton elected position to a three (3) year term, starting at the 2027 Municipal Elections. (Current position is a one-year term)

Art. 64. To see if the Town will accept the proposed changes to the Shore Land Zoning Ordinance, section 15 Land Use Standards, W, (New section for Fertilizer) (See #1 below for proposed amendment)

Planning Board and CEO Recommends: Yes

Art. 65. To see if the Town will accept the proposed changes to the Shore Land Zoning Ordinance, section 15 Land Use Standards, A(b).

(See #2 below for proposed amendments)

Planning Board and CEO Recommends: Yes

Art. 66. To see if the Town will accept the proposed changes to the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance, section 12 Non-Conformance, C Structures, subparagraph(b)

(See #3 below for proposed amendment)

Planning Board and CEO Recommends Yes

Art. 67. To see if the Town will accept the Comprehensive Plan Update. (current one on file is from 1987) (See #4 below for a summary of Comprehensive Plan) (Full plans available at Town Office or on website)

Planning Board and CEO Recommends Yes

Given under our hands this 2nd day of March, 2026

Rebecca Bright [Signature]
1st Select Board Member

Danielle Keay [Signature]
2nd Select Board Member

Justin Furbush [Signature]
3rd Select Board Member

Select Board, Town of Smithfield, Maine

A true copy of the warrant,

Attest:

[Signature]
Clerk of Smithfield

RETURN OF THE WARRANT

Smithfield, Maine

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 Town Office, Smithfield Post Office, Tax Collector's Office, and Tri Pond Variety in said town, being public and conspicuous places in said town, on this 6th day of March 2026, being at least seven days before the election.

[Signature]
Signature of Resident

3/6/26
Date

#2 Article #65

SECTION 15. LAND USE STANDARDS

All Land Use activities within the (250') shoreland zone area shall conform to the following provisions:

A. Minimum Lot Standards	Min SLZ Lot Area (sq. ft.)	Min. Shore Frontage (ft.)
1.		
(a) Residential per dwelling unit	40,000	200
(b) Governmental, Institutional, Commercial or Industrial per principal structure	40,000 60,000	300
(c) Public and Private Recreational Facilities	40,000	200
(d) Town of Smithfield Min. Lot Size Standard of 80,000 sq. ft for total lot area applies.		

#3 Article #66

Section 12 Non-Conformance

B. Non-Conforming Structures

2. Foundations.

a. Construction of a new or enlarged basement or foundation requiring soil excavation within twenty-five (25) feet of the normal high-water line of a great pond or stream or the upland edge of a freshwater wetland is prohibited. The prohibition applies to, but is not limited to, basements, frost walls and slabs. It does not apply to post foundations or replacement foundations and basements.

b. Whenever a new, enlarged, or replacement foundation is constructed under a non-conforming structure, the structure and new foundation must be placed such that the setback requirement is met to the greatest practical extent as determined by the Planning Board or its designee, basing its decision on the criteria specified in Section 12(C) (3) Relocation, below. *If the completed foundation does not extend beyond the exterior dimensions of the structure, except for expansion in conformity with Section 12(C)(1) above, and the foundation does not increase the structures height by more than three (3) additional feet, it shall not be considered to be an expansion of the structure.*

#1 Article #64

W. Fertilizer/Pesticide/Chemical Uses

1. Purpose and Justification:

To amend the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance section 15 Land Use by limiting the use of fertilizers and certain pesticides in the shoreland zone. The intent is to limit the movement of water-soluble fertilizers and pesticides into our lakes and streams.

- a) The use of granular pesticides on lawns is prohibited within the shoreland zone and within 75 feet of any stream or wetland unless applied by a licensed pesticide applicator with the 3B Turf Category from the State of Maine.
- b) No fertilizer shall be applied within 100 feet of a shoreline or stream in the shoreland zone.
- c) The use of fertilizer on lawns within 100 to 250 feet of a lake or great pond is restricted to the following conditions.
 - i. Application follows the best management practices as described by the Maine Board of Pesticide control, limiting the potential for nutrient runoff or groundwater infiltration.
(https://www.maine/dacf/php/pesticides/applicators/best_management_practices.shtml)
 - ii. Fertilizer use is restricted to a minimum of 50% slow-release nitrogen.
 - iii. Fertilizer must be phosphorus-free.
 - iv. Application rates may not exceed 0.5 lb. total nitrogen /1,000 sq.ft., within annual maximum of 1.5 lb. nitrogen/1,000 sq.ft.
 - v. With the exception of section a(i) above, fertilizer restrictions may be waived by the Planning Board or their designee upon submission of written justification addressing the need and specific locations within the property where the request applies.

2. Definitions

- a) Fertilizer: Any substance containing one or more recognized plant nutrients which are designed for use in promoting plant growth such as nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. Fertilizer as defined shall not include nitrogen-free soil building products such as molasses, humic acid, kelp, soil biological stimulants, secondary macro-nutrients, micro-nutrients, and biological inoculums.
 - b) Granular Pesticide: A dry solid pesticide that is applied to soil or lawn for the control of unwanted pests or weeds.
-

#4 Article #67

Summary of Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Smithfield

The points listed below are a very brief summary of the sections covered in the 2026 Comprehensive Plan. In order to read this information in greater detail and to learn more about the enhancements recommended by residents, please visit the Smithfield Website and see **Notices**. There will be a link to the Comprehensive Plan located there.

Section 1: History of Smithfield: Prior to European settlement, the area that would become Smithfield was inhabited primarily by the Norridgewock band of the Abenakis. The town was first settled by Europeans in 1799 with the establishment of a sawmill, and the population now hovers just under 1,000.

Section 2: Growth & Development: In recent years, Smithfield's growth has been due to its popularity as a vacation destination, based on its proximity to East and North Ponds. This has also led to some commercial growth. Over the past 5 years, Smithfield has seen a significant increase in the total evaluation of the real estate in town of 51.71% and now falls in the median of property value increases among the neighboring towns.

Section 3: The Economy of Smithfield is tied very much to the two lakes within it.

- The two significant employers in town are summer camps with over 100 seasonal employees each.
- The average business in town employs fewer than 5 people each.

Section 4: Government Facilities and Services: The town of Smithfield, like many other agreements, and citizen volunteerism to meet its public service demands. This includes Fire Protection, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and Police Services.

- **Smithfield is part of a School Administrative District (MSAD/RSU#54)** that provides educational services for Pre-K-12 students in the towns of Canaan, Cornville, Mercer, Norridgewock, Skowhegan and to Smithfield.

Section 5: Natural Resource Conservation and Management: Smithfield consists of 19.9 square miles (12,700 acres) of land area. Adding in the area of the lakes, Smithfield's total area is over 25 square miles. Residents of Smithfield have indicated that water quality and the preservation of open space are major concerns.

Section 6: Land Use and Development: Private property and its various functions hold significance for both individuals and the broader community. While there is generally little desire to intervene in private affairs, concerns arise when an individual's actions on their property have implications for neighboring residents, property values, or municipal expenditures. As towns consider regulations, they must weigh the interests of private property owners against the need to maintain environmental quality, public health, and overall community well-being.

Section 7: Cooperation with Neighboring Towns and Agencies: The actions taken by neighboring towns as they deal with development and public service issues give Smithfield opportunities for mutually beneficial cooperation. The surrounding towns and agencies provide Smithfield with access to schooling, emergency services, public safety, solid waste, water protection and conservation.

Section 8: Action Plan: It is important to remember this plan is not law. Adopting this plan will not force the town to follow the plan as suggested. It is simply a guide to consider in order to meet the expected changes the town will face in the next 10 years and how the town can best prepare for those changes in ways that benefit the community as a whole.