

## WARRANT FOR MARCH 7, 2026 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

To Dianna Rollins, a resident of the Town of Solon in the County of Somerset:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required by law to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Solon, qualified to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Solon Elementary School on the 7th day of March AD 2026 at eight o'clock in the forenoon, then and there, in accordance with the Revised Statutes of the State of Maine 1964, Title 30, Paragraph 2051 and seq. or as amended, to elect a moderator, and to transact all other business as enumerated in this Warrant.

For the election of officials, the polls will open immediately after the election of a Moderator and will remain open until 12:15 PM. The Clerk will open absentee ballots at 10:00 AM on March 7, 2026. The transaction of other business as enumerated in Articles 3 to 33 will begin at 1:30 PM.

Article 1: To choose a Moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

Nomination of Richard Roberts to act as Moderator: Jessica Schiaffinio. Seconded by Leslie Giroux. Nominations cease. Richard Roberts was elected as Moderator with a vote of 3-0.

Open the Town Meeting at 8:00 am for voting from 8:00 am to 12:15 pm.

Warden, Leslie Giroux, opened voting at 8:05 am.

A Public Informational Session was held at 1:00 pm to discuss the current Comprehensive Plan revisions.

Moderator, Richard Roberts, reopened for the Town Business Meeting at 1:30 pm.

Article 2: To elect by secret ballot all municipal officials and school committee members required to be elected.

Nominated Candidates:

Selectman, 3-year term:	John Dunay	42 votes
Road Commissioner, 1-year term:	Jeffrey Cyr	37 votes
RSU # 74 School Board Director, 3-year term:	Laura Layman	41 votes

All candidates ran uncontested and were elected to their nominated positions.

Announcements:

Proclamation by Town of Solon: October 2025 as the Solon Fire Department 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Proclamation by MMA: October 2025 as Fire Fighter Appreciation Month

2026 Spirit of America Award: George Williams

Article 3: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Requests:	
Salaries & Benefits	\$219,695
Insurance	\$ 45,000
Town Office Utilities	\$ 5,200
Town Charges	\$ 43,295
Town Office Maintenance	\$ 3,800
Training, Books, & Dues	\$ 1,800
Elections	\$ 2,350

Accounts Overage \$ 5,000  
Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$326,140 plus fees, income, & reimbursements.

Motion to APPROVE Article 3 as written: Denise Dunay. Seconded by Michael Golden.  
Motion carried.

Article 4: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for PUBLIC WORKS.

Requests:

Winter Roads \$153,400

Summer Roads \$158,200

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$309,100 by taxation plus \$2,500 anticipated revenues plus other fees, income, & reimbursements.

Motion to APPROVE Article 4 as written: Andrew Davis. Seconded by Michael Golden.  
Motion carried.

Article 5: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for SANITATION.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$104,700 by taxation plus \$7,000 anticipated revenues plus other fees, income, & reimbursements.

Motion to APPROVE Article 5 as written: Michael Golden. Seconded by Denise Dunay.  
Motion carried.

Article 6: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for COOLIDGE LIBRARY RESERVE

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$28,900 plus \$2,000 anticipated investment income plus other fees, income, & reimbursements.

Motion to APPROVE Article 6 as written: Craig Gerry. Seconded by Hether Forsten.  
Motion carried.

Article 7: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for the FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$60,025 plus fees, income, & reimbursements.

Motion to APPROVE Article 7 as written: Andrew Davis. Seconded by Jeffrey Cyr.  
Motion carried.

Article 8: To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for PUBLIC UTILITIES.

Requests:

Fire Hydrants \$24,900

Municipal Buildings Electric \$ 8,000

Street Lights \$10,000

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$42,900

Motion to APPROVE Article 8 as written: Sherry Rogers. Seconded by Craig Gerry.  
Motion carried.

Article 9: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for SOCIAL SERVICES.

Requests:

General Assistance \$15,000

KVCAP Transportation Service	\$ 750 (request \$750)
Hospice	\$ 1,000 (request \$1,000)
Spectrum Generations	\$ 827 (request \$827)
Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$ 1,850 (request \$1,850)
Sexual Support & Crisis Center	\$ 342 (request \$342)
Solon Food Cupboard	\$ 8,000 (request \$8,000)
Lifeflight Foundation	\$ 200 (request \$778)
American Red Cross	\$ 150 (request \$150)
Winslow Community Cupboard	\$ 100 (request \$100)
Pine Tree Society	\$ 100 (request \$100)
Sweetser Mental Health	\$ 100 (request \$100)
Children's Center	\$ 530 (request \$530)
Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$28,949	

Motion to APPROVE Article 9 as written: Andrew Davis. Seconded by Sherry Rogers. Motion carried.

Article 10: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for CODE ENFORCEMENT.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$8,800

Motion to APPROVE Article 10 as written: Michael Golden. Seconded by Andrew Davis. Motion carried.

Article 11: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for LEISURE SERVICES.

Requests:

Solon Recreation Program Reserve	\$ 1,000
Cobra Recreation	\$ 5,000
Williams Recreation Area	\$10,000
Swim/Camp Program Reserve	\$ 3,000
After School Program Reserve	\$ 7,000
Special Events	\$ 1,000
4th of July Fireworks	\$ 2,500
Baker Mountain Ski Club	\$ 1,250

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$30,750 plus income, donations, & reserve funds

Motion to APPROVE Article 11 as written: Andrew Davis. Seconded by Denise Dunay. Motion carried.

Article 12: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for the CEMETERY MAINTENANCE RESERVE.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$27,000 plus income, donations, & reserve funds

Motion to APPROVE Article 12 as written: Sherry Rogers. Seconded by Denise Dunay. Motion carried.

Article 13: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for ANIMAL WELFARE.

Requests:

Animal Shelter	\$2,200
Animal Control Officer	\$3,760
Animal Control Expenses	\$1,000

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$6,960 and the use of Town Dog Reserve funds for Animal Control related expenses

Motion to APPROVE Article 13 as written: Andrew Davis. Seconded by Maureen Shaw.  
Motion carried.

Article 14: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for ORGANIZATION FEES.

Requests:

Old Canada Road Byway	\$ 500 (requested \$500)
Kennebec Valley Council of Governments	\$1,625 (requested \$1,625)
Maine Municipal Association	\$2,508 (requested \$2,508)
Somerset Economic Development	\$ 100 (requested \$100)
KRDA/First Park	\$5,200

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$9,933 and use the revenue from KRDA/First Park to offset their fee

Motion to APPROVE Article 14 as written: Sherry Rogers. Seconded by Maureen Shaw.  
Motion carried. [Current Time: 1:43 pm]

Article 15: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for the CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS.

Requests:

Road Paving Reserve Account	\$ 20,000
Gravel Roads Reserve	\$ 10,000
Highway Equipment Reserve	\$ 25,000
Public Works Garage Reserve	\$220,000
Sidewalk Repair Reserve	\$ 10,000
Transfer Station Truck & Equipment Res.	\$ 15,000
Coolidge Library Capital Reserve	\$ 3,000
Municipal Buildings Maintenance Reserve	\$ 3,500
Fire Truck Reserve	\$ 10,000
Fire Department Capital Reserve	\$ 1,000

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$317,500

Motion to APPROVE Article 15 as written: Andrew Davis. Seconded by Sherry Rogers.  
Motion carried.

Article 16: To see what sum of money the Town will raise and appropriate by taxation for the RESERVE ACCOUNTS.

Requests:

Municipal Buildings Heat Reserve	\$10,000
FD Safety Equipment Reserve	\$ 5,000
GIS Mapping Reserve	\$ 2,000
Town Line Survey Reserve	\$ 2,500
Municipal Grounds Maintenance Reserve	\$ 2,000
Web Site Fee Reserve	\$ 2,000
Town Flags Reserve	\$ 2,000
Town Records Preservation Reserve	\$ 4,500
USA 250 <sup>th</sup> Celebration	\$ 4,000

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend \$34,000

Motion to APPROVE Article 16 as written: Jeffrey Cyr. Seconded by Michael Golden.  
Motion carried.

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to pay the Selectmen, Clerk, Deputy Clerk, and Deputy Assessor for field work and data entry related to the real estate revaluation from the Assessing Revaluation Reserve Fund.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Motion to APPROVE Article 17 as written: Craig Gerry. Seconded by Michael Golden.  
Motion carried.

Article 18: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to use funds in the Road Paving Reserve to repave Cross Street and the areas of 2026 culvert replacements on South Solon Road and Meeting House Road.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes and to use up to \$35,000 of the reserve funds

Motion to APPROVE Article 18 as written: Jeffrey Cyr. Seconded by Jeffrey Chase.  
Motion carried.

Article 19: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to close the Recreation Facility and Maintenance Reserve and move any funds remaining in that reserve to the Recreation Reserve.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Motion to APPROVE Article 3 as written: Sherry Rogers. Seconded by Bruce Whipple.  
Motion carried.

Article 20: To see if the Town will accept the \$1,500,000 Congressionally Directed Spending Grant to build a new Public Works Garage and to authorize the municipal officers to accept said grant funds, to make such assurances, assume such responsibilities, and exercise such authority as are necessary and reasonable to implement this project.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Motion to APPROVE Article 20 as written: Sherry Rogers. Seconded by Jeffrey Chase.  
Motion carried.

Article 21: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to use the funds in the Public Works Garage Reserve fund for the Public Works Garage project and, if funding is available, for a new salt shed at the new Public Works Garage location, for our 25% match for the Congressionally Directed Spending Grant.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Motion to APPROVE Article 21 as written: Denise Dunay. Seconded by Sherry Rogers.  
Motion carried.

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the town, to negotiate and enter into a purchase and sale agreement for the purchase of a parcel of land to be used as the site of the Town's new public works garage, and to appropriate funds from the Public Works Garage Reserve for the purchase of the property.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes and to appropriate up to \$200,000 from the Public Works Garage Reserve for the purchase of property for the project

Motion to AMEND Article 22: Micheal Golden. Seconded by Andrew Davis.

To authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the town, to negotiate and enter into a purchase and sale agreement for the purchase of a certain parcel of land described as 33 McCarty Road, Map R4 Lot 59, to be used as the site for the Town's new public works garage and salt shed, and to appropriate from the Public Works Garage Reserve fund \$150,000 for the purchase of the property.

Amendment passes.

Motion to approve Article 22 as amended: Michael Golden. Seconded by Andrew Davis.

Motion carried.

**03/09/26 UPDATE: The Board received a call from the current owner of the land stated in Article 22 on Monday following the Town Meeting to state they are withdrawing their offer to sell the property.**

Article 23: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to borrow a sum of money for the Public Works Garage project and for a new salt shed at the new Public Works Garage location,

#### Financial Statement

Town of Solon

Total Town Indebtedness:

A. Bonds Outstanding	\$ 0.00
B. Bonds Authorized and unissued	\$ 0.00
C. Bonds to be issued if this question is approved	<u>\$200,000.00</u>
Total	\$200,000.00

Costs

At an estimated interest rate of 5.47%, the estimated cost of this bond issue over 10 years will be:

Principal	\$200,000.00
Interest	\$ 60,142.00
Total Debt Service	\$260,142.00

Validity:

The validity of the bonds and of the voter's ratification of the bonds may not be affected by any errors in the above estimates. If the actual amount of the total debt service for bond issues varies from the estimate, the ratification by the electors is nevertheless conclusive and the validity of the bond issue is not affected by the reason of variance. /s/ Danika Riggs, Treasurer Town of Solon

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend borrowing up to \$200,000 on a 10-year note

Motion to APPROVE Article 23 as written: Elizabeth Caldwell. Seconded by Andrew Davis.

Motion carried.

Articles 24 – 33 [every year articles]:

Motion to take Articles 24 – 33 (every year articles) as a group: Michael Golden. Seconded Craig Gerry.

Motion carried. [Current Time: 2:00 pm]

Article 24: To see if the town will vote to appropriate to pay tax abatements granted during the fiscal year of 2026 from the 2026 tax overlay.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 25: To see if the Town will authorize the municipal officers to accept grant money available from the State government, Federal government, or other organizations for the Solon Snow Hawks Snowmobile Club

and give those funds to the club along with the snow groomer personal property tax reimbursement the town receives from the state.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 26: To see if the Town will 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 Section 2953.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 27: To see if the Town will authorize the municipal officers to apply for, accept and expend grant money available from the State or Federal government or other organization for any public purpose when they deem it to be in the town's best interest and any needed matching funds are available within the current budget and/or reserve funds.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 28: To see if the Town will give the Selectmen and/or the Fire Chief permission to apply for, accept and expend any grants to purchase equipment, firefighting equipment and safety equipment for the Fire Department.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes.

Article 29: To see if the Town will authorize the municipal officers to sell or dispose of surplus personal property with an estimated value of \$5,000 or less on such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes

Article 30: To see if the Town will accept the following tax-related articles:

1. To see if the Town will authorize the Tax Collector and Treasurer to apply any property tax overpayment of less than \$100 to that person next year's property taxes.

2. To see if the Town will authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed pursuant to 36 M.R.S A Section 506.

3. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate from the overlay to pay for tax abatements and applicable interest granted during the fiscal year 2026.

4. To see if the Town will use any surplus funds in excess of \$110,000.00 to reduce taxes.

5. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to procure a Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) for the purpose of paying municipal indebtedness; such note to be repaid during the current fiscal year from taxes paid during the municipal year.

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes.

Article 31: If the Town accepts Article 30-2, what, if any, interest shall the Town pay on these prepaid taxes? (If the Town votes to pay interest, it cannot be more than 7%.)

Selectmen recommend 0%.

Article 32: To see if the Town will set September 18, 2026 as the date when all unpaid 2026 taxes become interest bearing at the rate to be set by the State. (Rate being 7%)

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes.

Article 33: To see if the Town will set the interest rate to be paid by the town on abated taxes pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506-A

Selectmen and Advisory Committee recommend Yes and at a rate of 0%.

Motion to APPROVE Articles 24 – 33 (every year articles) as written: Andrew Davis. Seconded Michael Golden. Motion carried.

Adjournment:

Motion to ADJOURN the 2026 Annual Town Meeting: Michael Golde. Seconded Craig Gerry. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:04 pm.

Given under my hand this 4th day of February A.D., 2026,

/s/Elaine Aloes, Chair of Selectmen  
/s/John Dunay, Vice Chair of Selectmen  
/s/Wayne Johnson, Selectman

Attest true copy: /s/Leslie Giroux, Town Clerk

Pursuant to within warrant, I have hereby notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Solon, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Solon Elementary School on the 7th day of March AD 2026 at eight o'clock in the morning then and there in accordance with the Revised Statutes of the State of Maine, 1964, Title 30, Paragraph 2051 and seq. or as amended to act on all articles herein enumerated in this warrant posted at the Solon Town Office, Solon Post Office, Solon Corner Store, and Griswold's Store, conspicuous and public places within Solon, on the 12th day of February AD 2026, which is at least seven days prior to the Annual Town Meeting.

/s/Dianna Rollins, a resident of Solon.