

**SAMPLE BALLOT
RUMFORD, MAINE
MUNICIPAL ELECTION
NOVEMBER 4, 2025**

Town Clerk

Instructions to Voters

- ◆ To vote for your choice, fill in the oval to the left, like this: ●
- ◆ To have your vote count, do not erase or cross out your choice.
- ◆ If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot.

ARTICLE 1. Shall the Town approve the ORDINANCE Amendments, which amendments for adoption are on file with the Town Clerk's Office in the Filing Book as Nos. 2025-11 - 2025-12?

1. Shall the Town amend the Ordinance entitled "**Chapter 23 - FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE ORDINANCE**", Filing Number 2025-11, as follows?

§ 23-5. Hearings on warrant.

- Yes
 No

The Committee shall hold a public hearing to consider and hear comment on the articles in for the warrant for the next Annual Town Meeting

2. Shall the Town amend the Ordinance entitled "**Chapter 256 - VACANT PROPERTY ORDINANCE**", Filing Number 2025-12, as follows?

§ 256-4. Registration required

D. Standard Residential vacant building registration permit.

(1) The Code Enforcement Officer shall issue a standard residential vacant building registration permit upon being satisfied that the building has been inspected and is in compliance with the vacant building maintenance standards set forth in this chapter and upon payment of the applicant of the residential vacant building permit fee.

(2) A standard residential vacant building registration permit is valid for six months from the date of approval.

(3) The Code Enforcement Officer, upon issuance of any permit in this chapter, shall provide a copy of the permit to the Police Chief and Fire Chief of the Town.

E. Commercial vacant building registration permit.

(1) The Code Enforcement Officer shall issue a commercial vacant building registration permit after reviewing the commercial vacant building application permit and being satisfied that all the required information has been provided, after an inspection of the building to certify that the vacant commercial building is in compliance with the requirements for a vacant commercial building as set forth in this chapter and after receiving the commercial vacant permit fee.

(2) The commercial vacant building registration permit is valid for six (6) months from the date of approval.

EF. Interim vacant building registration permit

(3) When issuing orders under Subsection EF(1), the Code Enforcement Officer shall specify the time for completion of the work. The order will act as an interim vacant building registration permit, the duration of which will be for the time set forth in the order. No interim registration permit may be effective for a period of more than two months

F-G. Upon the expiration of a vacant building registration permit, if the building or structure is still vacant, the owner must arrange for an inspection of the building and premises with the Code Enforcement Officer, police and fire officials and renew the permit within 10 days of expiration. All permit renewals shall be subject to all conditions and obligations imposed by this chapter and any previous permits unless expressly exempted.

§ 256-5. Permit application

E. A fee, as established by the Board of Selectpersons in the Schedule of License, Permit and Application Fees, shall be charged semi-annually for a vacant building registration permit or interim permit. This applicable fee shall be charged upon the renewal of such permits. A vacant building permit may only be issued after an owner has paid the appropriate permit fee through the Code Enforcement Office. The permit fee increases at two times the prior six-month fee for each additional six months the building continues as vacant regardless of the owner or issuance of a new permit (e.g., change of ownership), up to a maximum fee of \$3,000 every six months. If an owner has secured all the duly required permits to demolish the building or structure, no fee is required if the building or structure is in fact demolished within 60 days of becoming vacant; should this sixty-day period expire, the fee becomes due immediately. In the event that the cost of all materials, staff time and other expenses of the Town is greater than the above permit fee, then those costs shall become the permit fee due and payable to obtain a permit for the applicable six-month period

- Yes
 No

ARTICLE 2. Shall the Town approve the enactment of new ORDINANCES, which are on file with the Town Clerk's Office in the Filing Book as Nos. 2025-13 - 2025-14?

1. Shall the Town adopt the Ordinance entitled "**Chapter ** - OUTDOOR DINING PERMIT ORDINANCE**", Filing Number 2025-13, summarized as follows with complete text on file in the Town Clerk's Office?

- Yes
 No

Summary: This ordinance will allow a holder of a victualer's license (generally restaurants) to request a permit to have outdoor dining in the parking spots adjacent to the establishment of the holder of the victualer's license if the holder meets the requirements established in the ordinance.

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2. Shall the Town adopt the Ordinance entitled "**Chapter ** - COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY ORDINANCE**", Filing Number 2025-14, summarized as follows with complete text on file in the Town Clerk's Office?

- Yes
- No

Summary: This ordinance will allow the establishment of a municipal program to enable its citizens to participate in a Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy ("C-PACE") program so that owners of qualifying property can access financing for energy savings improvements to their commercial properties located in the Town so long as the owner meets the requirements established in the ordinance.

ARTICLE 3. Shall the municipality approve the charter modification recommended by the charter commission and summarized below?

- Yes
- No

"ACT" TO "CHARTER": Summary and Explanation: Change the references in the Town Charter to "Act" (when referring to the Act that created the Charter in 1951) to "Charter" to change the 1951 language reference to the Act that created the Charter. Instead, the reference will be to the Charter which has been modified over the years through the statutory procedure under Title 30-A and a legislative act is no longer required.

The Full Text is in the Charter Commission Final Report on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

ARTICLE 4. Shall the municipality approve the charter modification recommended by the charter commission and reprinted below?

**ARTICLE IX
Board of Assessors**

Section 3. Organization.

- Yes
- No

At the adjournment of the annual Secret Poll Meeting the newly elected member or members of the Board shall forthwith qualify by taking the oath of office, and the Board shall immediately within 48 hours thereafter hold its annual organization meeting at which it shall choose a Chairperson and a Secretary. The Chairperson shall preside over meetings of the Board, shall act as administrative head thereof, and shall perform such other duties as are customarily performed by a Chairperson. The Secretary shall keep or cause to be kept accurate and complete records of all transactions of the Board.

ARTICLE 5. Shall the municipality approve the charter modifications recommended by the charter commission and summarized below?

- Yes
- No

TOWN CLERK/TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR/ CONSTABLE: Summary and Explanation: The proposed changes would allow the Town Manager and Board of Selectpersons to hire, through the hiring process, the Town Clerk/Treasurer and Tax Collector/Constable for permanent positions for continuity and accountability for these positions. Modifications will be made to: Article II Organization of Government, Sections 1 and 2; Article XI Town Clerk/Treasurer and Tax Collector/Constable, Sections 1 and 2; and Article XX Vacancies and Forfeitures in Office, Section 1. Like all other Departments, these positions become more accountable to the Town Manager for performance of their duties to the Town. They will be evaluated like all other Department Heads for pay increases and discipline and securing their respective positions. It assures a continued continuity and proficiency in both positions. If this modification passes, the persons currently in these positions will have the option to keep them.

The Full Text is in the Charter Commission Final Report on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

ARTICLE 6. Shall the municipality approve the charter modifications recommended by the charter commission and summarized below?

- Yes
- No

FINANCE COMMITTEE TO BUDGET COMMITTEE: Summary and Explanation: The proposed changes would give the Board of Selectpersons, along with the Town Manager, the responsibility for overseeing town procedures and finances of the Town, which the Charter makes them responsible already for doing in their positions. Modifications will be made to: Article II Organization of Government, Sections 1 and 2; Article III Warrants for Meetings and Town Referenda, Sections 3 and 5; Article V Town Meeting, Section 4; Article XIII Effective Date of Appointments, Sections 1 and 3; Article XIV Finance Committee, Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5; and Article XVI Town Auditor, Section 1. By Charter, the duties of the Board of Selectpersons are to prepare warrants for town meetings, the annual budget and charged with the proper administration of the fiscal, prudential and municipal affairs of the Town. The Board oversees the spending throughout the year. It makes the procedure simpler and consumes less time.

The Full Text is in the Charter Commission Final Report on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

ARTICLE 7. Shall the municipality approve the charter modifications recommended by the charter commission and summarized below?

- Yes
- No

INITIATED ARTICLES: Summary and Explanation: The proposed changes would require organizations to complete applications, including obtaining the signatures of registered voters, in order to qualify to be placed on the Town Warrant for consideration of the voters. Modifications will be made to: Article III Warrants for Meetings and Town Referenda, Section 5. This modification would provide information on the support of the organizations by Town residents.

The Full Text is in the Charter Commission Final Report on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

ARTICLE 8. Shall the municipality approve the charter modifications recommended by the charter commission and summarized below?

- Yes
- No

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION DEFINING ROLE: Summary and Explanation: Modifications will be made to: Article XV, Parks and Recreation Commission and Board of Library Trustees. A. Parks and Recreation Commission, Sections 2 and 6. These modifications will enable the Town to have a unified system of personnel management and clarify the hiring and disciplinary process more definitively and define the role of the Commission.

The Full Text is in the Charter Commission Final Report on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

ARTICLE 9. Shall the municipality approve the charter modifications recommended by the charter commission and summarized below?

- Yes
- No

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION CHANGE IN NUMBER OF COMMISSIONERS: Summary and Explanation: Modifications will be made to: Article XV, Parks and Recreation Commission and Board of Library Trustees. A. Parks and Recreation Commission, Sections 1 and 5. This modification will change the number of Commissioners from five to three.

The Full Text is in the Charter Commission Final Report on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

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ARTICLE 10. Shall the municipality approve the charter modifications recommended by the charter commission and summarized below?

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES DEFINING ROLE: Summary and Explanation: Modifications will be made to: Article XV, Parks and Recreation Commission and Board of Library Trustees. B. Board of Library Trustees, Sections 2 and 6. These modifications will enable the Town to have a unified system of personnel management and clarify the hiring and disciplinary process more definitively and define the role of the Commission.

Yes

No

The Full Text is in the Charter Commission Final Report on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

ARTICLE 11. Shall the municipality approve the charter modifications recommended by the charter commission and summarized below?

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES CHANGE IN NUMBER OF COMMISSIONERS: Summary and Explanation: Modifications will be made to: Article XV, Parks and Recreation Commission and Board of Library Trustees. B. Board of Library Trustees, Sections 1 and 5. This modification will change the number of Commissioners from five to three.

Yes

No

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