

RESULTS

WARRANT FOR TOWN SECRET POLL MEETING ON NOVEMBER 4, 2025

STATE OF MAINE, COUNTY OF OXFORD

TO: Thomas Bourret, Constable of the Town of Rumford, in said County.

GREETINGS:

In the Name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Rumford, qualified by law to vote in Town Affairs, to assemble and to vote by secret ballot in the AMERICAN LEGION, 184 CONGRESS STREET in said Town, on Tuesday the 4th day of November AD, 2025 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., on the following Articles, to wit:

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?

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§ 23-5. Hearings on warrant.

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

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YES 1036

NO 324

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

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§ 256-4. Registration required.

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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.

EE. Interim vacant building registration permit.

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- (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.

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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.

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E. ~~A fee~~Fees, 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~~is 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.

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YES 917
NO 457

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?

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.

YES 1004
NO 390

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?

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.

YES 890

NO 469

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

“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.

YES 776

NO 548

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

ARTICLE IX

Board of Assessors

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Section 3. Organization.

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.

YES 1010

NO 341

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

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.

YES 806

NO 546

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

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 consume less time.

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

YES 810

NO 531

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

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.

YES 910

NO 429

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

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.

YES 905

NO 446

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

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.

YES 714

NO 628

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.

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

YES 878

NO 498

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.

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

YES 709

NO 664

Notice is hereby given that the Voter Registration Office will be open during business hours at the Municipal Building from October 28 – October 31, 2025 and November 3 – 4, 2025 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to hear and decide upon applications of persons claiming the right to have their names entered upon the voting lists. The law requires all persons to show proof of identity and residency at the time of registration. The law also requires that when a voter's address changes, the voter must notify the registration office of such change. The LAST DAY TO REQUEST absentee ballots will be October 31, 2025 and all ballots requested MUST BE RETURNED NO LATER than November 4, 2025 at 8:00 p.m.

Approved as to form and legality:

JENNIFER F. KRECKEL, Town Attorney
Town of Rumford, Maine

Given unto our hand this _____ day of September, 2025.

BOARD OF SELECTPERSONS of Rumford, Maine

CHRISTOPHER BRENNICK, Chairperson

FRANK DICONZO, Vice-Chairperson

JAMES THERIAULT, Selectperson

JOHN PEPIN, SR., Selectperson

KEVIN CAPPONI, Selectperson

A TRUE ATTEST COPY

BETH BELLEGARDE, TOWN CLERK

Town of Rumford, Maine

CONSTABLE'S RETURN

Pursuant to the within Warrant to me directed, I have notified and warned the Inhabitants of the Town of Rumford, Maine; qualified as therein expressed, to assemble at the time and place, and for the purpose therein mentioned, by posting attested copies of the within warrant; one at the U.S. Post Office, 137 Congress Street, Rumford, Maine; one in the Municipal Building, 145 Congress Street, Rumford, Maine; and one at the Rumford Public Library, 56 Rumford Avenue, Rumford Maine, the same being public and conspicuous places in said Town, on the ____ day of September, in the year of our Lord, two thousand twenty four; the same being at least ten days before the time appointed for said meeting.

And, I also have caused an attested copy of the within warrant to be published in the *Rumford Falls Times*, a paper circulated weekly in said Town of Rumford, in its issue dated September ____, 2025.

Dated: September ____, 2025

THOMAS BOURRET, Constable
Town of Rumford, Maine