

TOWN OF GOULDSBORO
2026 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Hancock County

State of Maine

To: Brianna L. Mitchell, Resident, Town of Gouldsboro

Greetings:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Gouldsboro in said County of Hancock, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet at the Gouldsboro Community Center on Route 195, Pond Road, Gouldsboro on Tuesday, the Ninth (9th) day of June, A. D. 2026 at Eight O'clock (8:00 AM) in the forenoon, then and there to act on Articles numbered 1 and 2.

You are also to notify and warn said voters to meet at the Peninsula School Gym on Main Street, Prospect Harbor on Wednesday, the Tenth (10th) day of June, A.D. 2026 at Seven O'clock (7:00 PM) in the evening, then and there to act on Articles numbered 3 through 36, all of said Articles being set out below, to wit:

ARTICLE 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Town Clerk Brianna L. Mitchell read the greeting and Article 1.

Motion by Frank Minutillo to nominate Cheryl Brackett as Moderator; 2nd by Sarah Miller.

Motion by Sarah Miller to close nominations; 2nd by Frank Minutillo. Nominations closed.

Moderator election passed 3/0 by secret ballot.

Town Clerk Brianna L. Mitchell administered Oath of Office to Cheryl Brackett.

Moderator Cheryl Brackett opened the polls at 8AM.

ARTICLE 2. To elect the following Town Officials by secret ballot:

One Select Board member 3 Year Term – Expires June 2029

Two Planning Board members 3 Year Terms – Expires June 2029

One Planning Board member 2 Year Term – Expires June 2028

Polls declared closed at 8PM by Moderator Cheryl Brackett. 729 municipal ballots cast.

Results of Select Board election: (one 3-year term)

Johnathan Renwick 651

Blank 2

Write ins 7

Results of Planning Board election: (two 3-year terms)

Deirdre McArdle-Manning 519

Jed West 500

Blank 2

Write ins 11

Results of Planning Board election: (one 2-year term)

Roy Gruver 616

Blank 2

Write ins 7

Annual Town Meeting

Attendance: Sixty-five (65) registered voters attended. Twelve (12) non-registered voters attended. 77 total attended.

Deputy Moderator Stu Marckoon was sworn in by Moderator Cheryl Brackett and opened Annual Town Meeting at 7PM. Stu Marckoon entertained a motion to allow non-residents to speak during town meeting. **Dwight Rodgers made a motion to allow non-residents to speak during annual town meeting; 2nd by Bill Zoellick. Motion passed.**

Rick Henion and Marty Elliott were awarded the Spirit of America Award and both were presented a certificate. Raymond Jones was presented a 30+ years of service award for serving on town committees.

Municipal General Fund Warrant Articles

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,073,776 for Administration for the period of July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027.

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Department	Approved FY2026 (\$)	Requested FY2027 (\$)
Public Safety		
<i>EMS</i>	507,543	516,979
<i>Police</i>	362,395	366,845
<i>Fire</i>	95,117	100,000
<i>Animal Control</i>	3,500	3,500
Public Works	923,944	969,600
General Administration	422,263	474,742
Insurance	246,177	327,878
Town Property	137,020	165,745
Services & Committees	135,711	148,487
Totals	2,833,670	3,073,776

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Bill Zoellick. Passed as written.

Other Municipal Financial Warrant Articles

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300,000 for the Paving Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Paving Reserve as of April 2026 is \$706,915.

Of that balance, \$309,042.38 is already committed to projects for Spring/Summer 2026.

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Dierdre McArdle-Manning. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$73,333 for the Public Works Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Public Works Reserve as of April 2026 is \$68,978.

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Raymond Jones. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 for the Fire Equipment Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Fire Equipment Reserve as of April 2026 is \$279,340.

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Rick Henion. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 for the Community Cemetery Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Community Cemetery Reserve as of April 2026 is \$6,018.

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Donald Ashmall. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$110,000 for the Buildings and Grounds Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Buildings and Grounds Reserve as of April 2026 is \$81,550

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Raymond Jones. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to retain \$10,000 from the EMS Reserve and transfer the remaining balance from EMS Reserve to the general fund to offset medical/ambulance services.

Estimated balance in the EMS Reserve as of April 2026 is \$243,319

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Bill Zoellick. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,000 for the Ambulance Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Ambulance Reserve as of April 2026 is \$92,560.

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Bill Zoellick. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the Harbor Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Harbor Reserve as of April 2026 is \$112,765.

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Bill Zoellick. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for the Jones Pond Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Jones Pond Reserve as of April 2026 is \$35,132

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Dierdre McArdle-Manning. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 for the Legal & Executive Search Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Legal & Executive Search Reserve as of April 2026 is \$50,723

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Cynthia Thayer. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$67,000 for the Revaluation Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Revaluation Reserve as of April 2026 is \$71,342

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Cynthia Thayer. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 for the Coastal Planning & Protection Reserve.

Estimated balance in the Coastal Planning & Protection Reserve as of April 2026 is \$76,437

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Dierdre McArdle-Manning. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 for the Dorcas Library request.

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Dierdre McArdle-Manning. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$8,000 for the Historical Society request.

The Select Board and the Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Donald Ashmall; 2nd by Dwight Rodgers. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$13,800 for the Schoodic Food Pantry.

The Select Board and the Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Dierdre McArdle-Manning. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,200 for the following organizations:

- The sum of \$400 for Community Health and Counseling
- The sum of \$400 for Eastern Area Agency on Aging
- The sum of \$400 for The Life Flight Foundation
- The sum of \$400 for WIC Nutrition Program
- The sum of \$400 for Families First Community Center
- The sum of \$400 for Northern Light Home Care & Hospice Foundation
- The sum of \$400 for Sweetser
- The sum of \$400 for Friends of Dixon Clinic

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Dierdre McArdle-Manning. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise general funds to donate to tax-exempt organizations (charities) during the next budget cycle.

Motion by Dierdre McArdle-Manning; 2nd by Dwight Rodgers. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a maximum of \$250,000 from Undesignated Fund Balance (surplus) to offset taxes, if necessary and available.

The Select Board and Budget Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Raymond Jones. Passed as written.

Other Warrant Articles

ARTICLE 22 – To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to accept, on behalf of the Town, unconditional gifts of property and/or donations which they feel are in the Town’s best interest to accept.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Raymond Jones. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 23 – To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to accept donations of money or private, state or federal grants for the purpose of supplementing a specific appropriation already made in order to reduce the Town’s tax assessment or long-term debt.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Raymond Jones. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 24 – To see if the Town will vote to have unexpended balances and overdrafts in all accounts at the end of the fiscal year, except those which remain by law or are deemed necessary by the Select Board, transferred to Unappropriated Surplus.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Dierdre McArdle-Manning. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 25 – To see if the Town will allow the Select Board to authorize the Treasurer to waive automatic lien foreclosures when it is in the best interest of the Town.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Elizabeth Mathewson. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 26. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of tax-acquired property (1) in accordance with Title 36, Section 943-C of the Maine Revised Statutes, as may be amended, or (2) should the Select Board be unable to list or sell the property pursuant to Section 943-C, in any manner reasonably calculated by the Select Board to establish fair market value of the property. For sales to someone other than the former owner, excess sale proceeds, as calculated pursuant to Section 943-C, shall be returned to the former owner.

The Select Board recommends approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Roger Dean. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 27. To see if the Town will vote to have the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 taxes due in two installments: half to be due on or before October 30, 2026 and the other half to be due on or before March 31, 2027 and to have interest charged at the annual rate of 7.00% on any taxes unpaid after the due dates.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Raymond Jones. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 28. To see if the Town will authorize the Tax Collector to pay interest to any taxpayer who makes an overpayment of taxes, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A., Section 506-A, at a rate of 3.50% per annum.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Raymond Jones. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 29. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to dispose of surplus town vehicles Engine 2 (1992 Ford F800), Tanker 1 (1990 Ford L8000), Tanker 2 (2004 Freightliner M2-106), Utility Truck (1988 Ford F-350), Schoodic 1 (2018 Chevrolet Silverado), Schoodic 52 (2014 Chevrolet ambulance), and Police Truck (Dodge Ram), under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Cynthia Thayer. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 30. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to dispose of town-owned property, excluding tax-acquired property, with a value of five thousand (\$5,000.00) or less, under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

The Select Board recommends approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Roger Dean. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 31. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into multi-year contracts for public services.

The Select Board recommends approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Dierdre McArdle-Manning. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 32. To see if the Town will vote to retain the right to control the harvesting of alewives.

The Select Board recommends approval.

Motion by Donald Ashmall; 2nd by Dwight Rodgers. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 33. To see if the Town will approve amendments to the Harbor Management Ordinance.

The Select Board and Harbor Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Raymond Jones. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 34. To see if the Town will approve amendments to the Shellfish Conservation Ordinance.

The Select Board and Shellfish Committee recommend approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Roger Dean. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 35. To see if the Town will vote to accept donations by the Ray Scholarship Fund for the benefit of Gouldsboro students at Sumner High School.

The Select Board recommends approval.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Dierdre McArdle-Manning. Passed as written.

ARTICLE 36. To see if the Town will vote to set the next Town Meeting as the second Tuesday in June 2027, to start at 8AM.

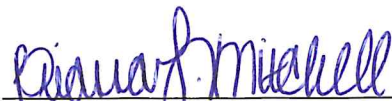
Motion by Dwight Rodgers; 2nd by Cynthia Thayer. Passed as written.

The Registrar of Voters, or Deputy, hereby gives notice that she will be in session at the Community Center on the Pond Road from 8AM until 8PM on the day of the election, Tuesday, June 9, 2026, and at 7PM at the Peninsula School on Wednesday, June 10, 2026 for the purpose of revising and correcting the list of registered voters.

Motion by Dwight Rodgers to adjourn at 7:50PM; 2nd by Dierdre McArdle-Manning. Motion passed.

Warrant signed by Robert Harmon, Danny Mitchell Jr., Peter McKenzie II, Jacqueline Weaver, and Johnathan Renwick.

Attest:



Brianna L. Mitchell
Town Clerk of Gouldsboro