



Town of Oxford

Office of the Town Manger
127 Pottle Road
Oxford, ME 04270
Tel 207-539-4431
Fax 207-539-4228

Public Notice

This public notice is being published at the direction of the Oxford Board of Selectmen.

At the May 23, 2024 Selectmen's meeting the Selectmen signed the warrant and notice of election for the MSAD17 budget validation referendum. This referendum vote will take place on June 11, 2024 at the Oxford Town Office from 8am – 8pm. Absentee ballots can also be attained by contacting the Town Clerk's Office. This vote will be the final chance to approve or turn down the proposed MSAD17's budget.

During this meeting, the Selectmen discussed the proposed increase to the MSAD17 budget. If the proposed MSAD17 budget passes, the Town of Oxford's MSAD17 assessment will be \$5,347,671 over last years \$4,375,363. That is a total increase of \$972,308.

To put this increase in perspective. The current Mil Rate in Oxford is 8.8. The value of a "mil" is \$784,000. The total proposed MSAD17 is the equivalent of 1.24 mils.

Given the unprecedented increase proposed by this year's MSAD17 budget, the Oxford Board of Selectmen voted to "not support" the MSAD17 budget. The Selectmen recommend Oxford voters also consider "not supporting" the proposed MSAD17 budget by voting "NO" on June 11th.

To be clear. The Board of Selectmen support the functions of MSAD17 and recognize the importance of delivering quality education. Voting to "not support" the MSAD17 budget is not a statement against MSAD17. This vote is against the unprecedented MSAD17 budget increase. The Board of Selectmen simply ask that MSAD17 produce a more realistic and fiscally responsible budget.

What happens if the MSAD17 budget is voted down? In the event the MSAD17 budget does not pass prior to July 1st, simply put, MSAD17 will continue to operate using last years approved budget until a final budget is approved. For reference see State of Maine Title 20-A, §1487: "Failure to pass budget":

www.legislature.maine.gov/statutes/20-A/title20-Asec1487.html

On behalf of the Oxford Board of Selectmen, thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,
Adam Garland
Town Manager