INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS:

Vote "Yes" or "No" by making a cross (X) or check mark (✓) in the square of your choice at the bottom of each Article.

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to expend up to $35,000.00 from the dedicated Impact Fee Recreation Funds for a community events sign.

**VOTER INFORMATION:** A minimum of $1,344.00 is required to be expended out of the Recreation Fee Fund by June 2021 otherwise, the money will be given back to the property owners that paid the impact fee. This is money the Town has already collected. Due to the proposed project the Select Board is recommending an amount of up to $35,000.00 be expended to complete the sign purchase and installation. The total balance of the Recreation Impact Fee Fund is currently: $70,560.00. Select Board Recommend a "Yes" vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $1.00 for the Capital Project Fund.

**VOTER INFORMATION:** Every year the Town moves to raise and appropriate money to Capital Projects Fund to purchase or fund large assets needed for the Town. Example: Fire Trucks, Road Projects etc. This year due to the impact of COVID the CIP Committee are requesting to keep the fund going but to help with financial impact are only requesting $1.00. Budget Committee, CIP Committee & Select Board Recommend a "Yes" vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate $25,000.00 from the Capital Projects Fund for the refurbishment of Engine 2.

**VOTER INFORMATION:** The Capital Projects Committee are requesting to spend $25,000.00 from money that has already been raised in order to refurbish Engine 2 for the Fire Department. CIP Committee, Fire Chief & Select Board Recommend a "Yes" vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $339,100.00 for General Government.

**VOTER INFORMATION:** Last Year's General Government Budget was $305,982.00. This is an increase of 10.82%. The increases are due to vendor increases, becoming ADA compliant for our website, increased use of our Town Planner from GPCOG, a temporary part-time clerk & cost of living raises as well as health insurance increases. Select Board & Budget Committee Recommend a "Yes" vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $11,350.00 for Social Services.

**VOTER INFORMATION:** Last Year's Social Services Budget was $9,850.00. This is an increase of 15.23%. The increase seen above is to compensate our Local Health Officers. Select Board & Budget Committee Recommend a "Yes" vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

PLEASE TURN THE BALLOT OVER.
Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $22,630.00 for Mallett Hall.

VOTER INFORMATION: Last Year’s Mallett Hall Budget was $21,977.00. This is an increase of 2.97%. The increase is due to increased costs for cleaning supplies and a cost of living raise for the custodian. Select Board & Budget Committee Recommend a “Yes” vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $130,016.00 for Public Safety.

VOTER INFORMATION: Last Year’s Public Safety Budget was $128,248.00. This is an increase of 1.38%. Increases are due to the State minimum wage requirements, increases in vendor costs for operations and costs for cleaning supplies. Select Board & Budget Committee Recommend a “Yes” vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 9. To see what amount the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Public Works.

VOTER INFORMATION: Last Year’s Public Works Budget was $730,097.00. Increases are due to utility increases, supplier increases, health insurance increases and equipment maintenance costs. The Public Works Department employs 4 individuals. There are two separate recommendations for this article. The Budget committee is recommending funding 2 employees at the Family Coverage Health Insurance Plan for $726,252.00 (this is what the Town currently funds), the Select Board is recommending funding all 4 employees at the Family Health Insurance Coverage Plan for $750,741.00 (this is for the potential of all 4 individuals taking the insurance plan). The intention of the Select Board recommendation is that if the 2 individuals who are not funded continue to not take the insurance the unused funds will be set aside in a dedicated carry forward account to be used should the need arise.

☐ $750,741.00 (Select Board Recommendation)

☐ $726,252.00 (Budget Committee Recommendation)

☐ Neither

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $108,329.00 for Solid Waste.

VOTER INFORMATION: Last Year’s Solid Waste Budget was $105,170.00. This is an increase of 3.00%. Increases are due to the costs for disposing of waste as well as production of the PAYT Trash bags. Select Board & Budget Committee Recommend a “Yes” vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $3,200.00 for Pownal Center Water Association.

VOTER INFORMATION: Last Year’s Pownal Center Water Association Budget was $4,150.00. This is a decrease of 22.89%. The decreases are due to a decreased need for operating costs. Select Board & Budget Committee Recommend a “Yes” vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $4,064.00 for Cemeteries.

VOTER INFORMATION: Last Year’s Cemeteries Budget was $4,000.00. This is an increase of 1.60%. The increases are due to cost of living raises in compensation. Select Board & Budget Committee Recommend a “Yes” vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE.
Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate $342,465.00 for Debt Service and Other Obligations. 

**VOTER INFORMATION:** Last Year's Debt Service Budget was $350,509.00. This is a decrease of 2.29%. The decrease is due to the Town paying down the principal and interest each year for each perspective bond that Town currently holds. **Select Board & Budget Committee Recommend a “Yes” vote.**

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to accept and apply $525,506.76 of the non-property tax revenues to reduce the total amount authorized to be raised by taxation and to authorize the Select Board and Town Treasurer to accept any additional revenues or funds and expend any other revenue from the State, Federal, local and private sources for the support of the Town that may be used to reduce the amount required to be raised by taxation.

**VOTER INFORMATION:** Last Year’s revenues were $573,319.00. This is a reduction of $47,812.24. This reduction is due to lower than projected revenues that may be coming in this coming fiscal year. **Select Board Recommend a “Yes” vote.**

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board and the Town Treasurer, on behalf of the Town to accept any gifts, unanticipated donations, or pass-through funds that may be provided by individuals, business associates, charitable groups, or other organizations, which have not been listed in any of the previous articles, if the Select Board determines that the gifts, donations or pass-through funds and their purposes are in the best interest of the Town.

**VOTER INFORMATION:** The Town needs to ask for permission by the legislative body to accept any gifts or donations that are not accounted for in our budget line items. This Article is voted on every year. **Select Board Recommend a “Yes” vote.**

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to exceed the maximum property tax levy limit (LD1) established by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved results in a tax commitment in excess of the property tax levy otherwise allowable, such that the increased maximum property tax levy established will equal the amount committed.

**VOTER INFORMATION:** It is not projected that the town’s budget will exceed tax levy limits established by State law, but as a preventative housekeeping action it is recommended the Town vote to approve Article 16. This is an article that is voted on at every Town Meeting. **Select Board Recommend a “Yes” vote.**

☐ Yes ☐ No

PLEASE TURN THE BALLOT OVER.
Article 17.

1) To see if the Town will vote to set September 15, 2020, December 15, 2020, March 15, 2021 and June 15, 2021 as the dates on which one quarter taxes shall be due and payable and to charge interest at the rate of eight percent (8.00%) per year computed on a daily basis on any portion of the installment dues that remains outstanding as of September 16, 2020, December 16, 2020, March 16, 2021 and June 16, 2021.
2) To see if the Town will permit the Tax Collector or her designee to waive unintentional tax interest payment shortages in an amount not to exceed $5.00; and
3) To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept payment of real estate property taxes not yet due or assessed pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A Section 506-A. The Town does not apply interest on such collections.

VOTER INFORMATION: This article is how the Town sets the Tax payment due dates. Item #2 is asking to allow the Tax Collector to waive unintentional tax interest. This happens when a payment is accidently shorted due to slight oversight. Item #3 is required by state law at each Annual Town Meeting, in order to collect any prepayments for taxes paid prior to the commitment of said taxes. Select Board Recommend a "Yes" Vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 18.

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to enter into a standard agreement with taxpayers establishing a “tax club” payment plan for commercial and/or residential real estate property taxes, whereby:

1) The taxpayer agrees to pay specified monthly payments to the town based on his/her estimated and actual tax obligation for current year real estate property taxes;
2) The Town agrees not to charge interest on timely payments made pursuant to the tax club agreement;
3) The Town authorizes the collector to accept tax club payments for current taxes which may be due prior to the commitment of those taxes;
4) The agreement is automatically terminated if the scheduled payment is late, and the taxpayer then becomes subject to the same due date(s) and interest date(s) and rate as other taxpayers who are not participating in a tax club;
5) Only taxpayers who do not have outstanding tax obligations for prior tax years are eligible to participate in the tax club program and;
6) Tax-payers wishing to participate in a tax club for a particular property tax year shall enter an agreement with the town by a publicly-advertised deadline determined by the Tax Collector.

VOTER INFORMATION: This Article is a new proposal to the legislative body. It is implementing a program to help residents in town who may be on a fixed income who would benefit from a monthly payment plan to pay on real estate taxes. This will be an annual question to pass this particular program. Select Board Recommend a "Yes" vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 19.

To see if the Town will vote to set 0% as the rate to be paid by the Town on abated taxes pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506-A.

VOTER INFORMATION: This Article is to set an interest rate on money the Town would need to pay back to a taxpayer for taxes that have been abated. This is an Article that is voted on every year. Select Board Recommend a "Yes" vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 20.

To see if the Town will vote to authorized the Select Board to transfer not more than 3% of the Town’s budgeted expenditures between budget line items provided that the Town’s total budgeted expenditures shall not be increased.

VOTER INFORMATION: This Article is asking the Town to allow the Select Board to move money from one line item to another should a budget line item not be approved for an increase. This is an Article that is voted on every year. Select Board Recommend a "Yes" vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE.
Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the transfer of any unexpended balances to the carry forward account and to authorize any overdrafts that may occur in Town operations during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, to be taken from that account.

VOTER INFORMATION: This Article is asking the Town to allow the Select Board to transfer money that does not get expended each year to the carry forward account and should any budget line item that gets over expended due to unforeseen circumstances be taken from that specific account. Select Board Recommend a “Yes” vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 22. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board and the Town Treasurer, on behalf of the Town, to rent, sell or otherwise dispose of any parcel of real estate or any portion thereof acquired by the Town of Pownal between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021 for non-payment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they deem advisable.

VOTER INFORMATION: This Article is asking the Town to allow the Select Board and Town Treasurer to dispose of real estate that the Town have become acquired due to foreclosure on terms as they deem advisable in the best interest of the Town. This is an Article that is voted on every year. Select Board Recommend a “Yes” vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Article 23. To see if the Town will vote to allocate funds received from the registration of snowmobiles to Town established snowmobile club(s) for the purpose of maintaining their snowmobile trails to be open to the use of the public during the winter season.

VOTER INFORMATION: Explanation: It is a state mandate that the snowmobile registration money must be appropriated annually by the Town for whatever purpose it desires. If all or part of it is appropriated to a snowmobile club, one of the conditions of that appropriation must be that the club’s trails are open to public use. Otherwise, it would be an illegal appropriation of public funds for a private group.

NOTE: Last year’s Town Meeting approved the two operating snowmobile clubs in Town. Additionally, the Town was provided with a written letter with an agreement of both snowmobile clubs to split funds on a 50/50 basis annually. The snowmobile trails are all primarily on privately owned land. What property owners choose to do with their land during other seasons is at their discretion. Select Board Recommend a “Yes” vote.

☐ Yes ☐ No

YOU HAVE COMPLETED VOTING