

**Town of Whitefield**  
**Select Board Meeting Minutes**  
**October 16, 2012**

Whitefield selectmen's meeting October 16, 2012

Present: Steve McCormick, Tom Colpitt, Lester Sheaffer, Dennis Merrill and Frank Ober

Select board actions:

1. Minutes of the October 2 meeting were approved 5-0
2. Road Commissioner David Boynton reported that he was planning on doing some surface work on some of our gravel roads: Hollywood Boulevard, Devine Road and Benner Lane completing work started last year. He is also planning on doing some cold patch work prior to freezing weather.
3. A committee representing the local food bank came in to ask selectmen for any assistance we could offer in locating a new location for a food bank. The Sheepscot Valley Community Church is growing and needs the space for classrooms. A suggestion was made to approach the grange and see if they might provide a space for the food bank. At this time the town does not have any space available in any of our present buildings.
4. Chiefs Higgins and Talacko reported that Engine 2 had passed inspection with some work done, hose was tested and passed and they were planning on meeting with Heidi Swiderek of Maine Municipal Association to coordinate the insurance information on our policies. Chief Higgins reported that he may have a candidate for the Emergency Management Director.
5. The board discussed hiring a new lawyer for the town now that Cliff Goodall has retired. Several possible candidates will be asked to come and talk with the board.
6. Board signed nine copies of the RSU warrants.
7. Board set a hearing for next week for the new Schedule C for General Assistance.
8. Board reviewed modified layout for voting at the fire station on November 6th.
9. Two General Assistance reports were signed.
10. Dennis reported that the base for the salt and sand shed is to ready build on. A work session has been set for October 27th.
11. Board members Tom and Frank are planning on doing a road tour with our plowing contractor Dave Spicer and Sam Snow in the next week or so.

Assessors Actions

1. A taxpayer came in with an abatement request which will be given to Tom Hayes for evaluation.
2. Two abatements were signed
3. Regarding tax acquired property sales: Research is being done on the issues around the ownership of some of the properties. Tom Hayes has been asked to research this.

Steve McCormick, Chair    Lester Sheaffer    Tom Colpitt

Dennis Merrill    Franklin Ober  
Town of Whitefield  
Select Board Meeting Minutes  
October **23, 2012**  
Present: Steve McCormick, Frank Ober, Tom Colpitt, Lester Sheaffer, and Dennis Merrill  
Administrative Assistant Aaron Miller

## Select Board actions

1. The minutes of the October 16 meeting were approved 5-0.
2. Two warrants were signed.
3. Match Motors. The new owner of Match Motors came in with paper work for change of ownership needed to obtain a new State license. The paper work was signed.
4. Fire Department. Scott Higgins reported MMA will be coming Oct 31 to review information regarding insurance underwriting. They are in the process of hose testing; problems were found with the hose on one truck.
5. Roads. David Boynton reported So. Fowles Ln., and Hollywood Blvd., and Devine Rd. have been resurfaced and graded. Benner Ln. will be done soon. Potholes are being patched on various paved roads. There is a short section on Hollywood Blvd. where the roadside brush is especially bad and David will be cutting that back. On Friday, Frank and Tom will accompany Spicer Tree on a tour of Town roads in preparation for the plowing season. They will identify all roads to be plowed and turn-around locations.
6. Recycling. The Board noted a letter from Coopers Mills fire association expressing interest in getting returnable bottles collected at the Recycling Center. The request will be forwarded to the Recycling Committee.
7. Historical Society. Libby Harmon came in to discuss improvements to the Historical Society's area in the Townhouse. They want to remove two voting booths that are not original to the building. Also, they want to improve the electrical system by adding some outlets and new circuits. A licensed and insured electrician would do this work. The Historical Society would pay for the work with its funds. The Board voted 5-0 to authorize this work.
8. Paperwork for the bank to add Aaron Miller to the Town's account was signed.
9. General assistance. The Board noted that a public hearing has been set up for Oct 30 to receive comments on proposed changes to GA guidelines.
10. No. Whitefield fire association. The now defunct association has a certificate of deposit that was intended to be transferred to the Town. The money remains from Town payments to the association over the years. Aaron will prepare a letter to the bank. Also, we will try to learn if the association had any specific desires for use of the money by the Town.

## Assessors' Actions

1. The Board signed two abatements for Ronald Miller to adjust for a mobile home that was previously removed from his property.

2. Nancy and Arthur Peters came in with concerns over the amount of acreage in a parcel they own. A portion of the parcel is in Windsor. The land was bought in 1973 and listed as 40 acres until 1991 when the Town changed the size to 51.9 acres. The basis for the change is unclear, although the exact acreage of 51.9 suggests specific information was available to prompt the change. The Peters now assert the Whitefield portion of the parcel is 40 acres. We will need to research this further.

3. The Board voted 5-0- to approve an abatement for the Corbin property since there is no building on the property as was assessed.

4. A request was received from Richard Howell and Dorothy Burns to combine lots on both sides of Townhouse Road, Map 13, Lots 8, 13 and 56. We will consult with the Assessor's Agent and research the law before taking action.

5. The Board voted 5-0 to approve an abatement for Heather Ryan to reduce by 50% the value of the base lot on her Crocker Ave parcel. The lot is remote and not as easily developed as if it were readily accessible to power and a maintained public road.

6. The Board voted 5-0 to approve two abatements for Steve Smith's land on Route 17. One parcel has a well but no septic. The other parcel has septic but no well. They had been assessed as each having both improvements.

7. Sam Bartlett came in inquiring about his house and garage. These are assessed as being two lots but Mr. Bartlett said there is actually only one lot. He will be provided with the forms to request an abatement. Also, he wants to combine two parcels (accounts 199 and 1023) and three parcels (Map 17, Lots 26, 30A and 30C). We will research these.

Steve McCormick, Chair    Lester Sheaffer    Tom Colpitt

Dennis Merrill    Franklin Ober