

WARRANT

To: **Sandra Brown**, Resident of the Town of Whitefield, County of Lincoln, State of Maine.

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to warn the voters of Whitefield, Maine, qualified to vote on Town affairs to meet at the Whitefield Central Fire Station in said Town on the Sixteenth day of March, 2018, at 4:00 PM, then and there to act upon Article 1 and by secret ballot on Article 2, the polling hours from are 4:00 PM until 8:00 PM.

Pursuant to Title 21-A, Section 759(7), absentee ballots will be processed at the polls at the following time: 6:00 PM.

And to notify and warn said voters to meet at the Whitefield School in said Town on the seventeenth day of March, 2018 at 10:00 AM, then and there to act on Articles 3 through 40 as set out below, to wit:

Article 1. To elect a moderator by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

Article 2. To elect by secret ballot municipal officers namely, one Select Board Member/Assessor/Overseer of the Poor for a three-year term; two RSU 12 School Board Members one for a two-year term and one for a one-year term; and two openings on the Planning Board for two-year terms.

Article 3. To see if the Town will fix dates when taxes shall be due and payable, and to see if the Town will fix an annual interest rate to be charged on unpaid taxes after said dates, and to allow the Tax Collector and Treasurer to accept the prepayment of taxes not yet committed pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A §506.
17/18 budget year interest rate 4%.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS 4% November 30, 2018 and 4% April 30, 2019.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from surplus funds to pay for tax abatements and any interest due thereon.

Article 5. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Town Tax Collector to enter into a standard agreement with taxpayers establishing a "tax club" payment plan for property taxes, whereby:

- the taxpayer agrees to pay specified monthly payments to the town based on his/her estimated and actual tax obligation for the current year property taxes.
- the town agrees not to charge interest on timely payments made pursuant to the tax club agreement.
- the town authorizes the Town Tax Collector to accept tax club payments for current taxes which may be due prior to the commitment of those taxes.
- the agreement is automatically terminated if a scheduled payment is late, and the taxpayer then becomes subject to the same due dates and interest dates and rates as other taxpayers who are not participating in a tax club.
- only taxpayers who do not have any outstanding tax obligations for prior tax years are eligible to participate in the tax club program.
- taxpayers wishing to participate in a tax club for a particular property tax year shall enter into an agreement with the town by a publicly-advertised deadline determined by the Town Tax Collector.

Article 6. To see if the town will authorize the Treasurer to waive the foreclosure of a tax lien mortgage pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A §944 upon finding by the Select Board that ownership of the property subject to the lien would be contrary to the Town's best interest.

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into multi-year contracts to negotiate optimal value for the procurement of certain services necessary to the Town.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board on behalf of the Town to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for nonpayment of taxes thereon, for such terms as they deem advisable and to execute quitclaim deeds for the same.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to accept gifts of money or personal property to the Town and to appropriate and expend such gifts for such public purposes as the Select Board deem to be in the best interest of the Town.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to apply for and accept state and federal grants and grants from nonprofit organizations on behalf of the Town for municipal purposes, including when necessary, the authority to sign the grant contract and accept the conditions that accompany grant funds, and to appropriate and expend grant funds for the authorized purposes.

Article 11. To see if the Town will authorize the Select Board to dispose of town owned property valued up to \$1,000. Property valued over \$1,000 will be sold through auction or sealed-bid process.

Article 12. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to provide compensation to the Select Board during the ensuing fiscal year.

17/18 Budget \$17,500

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (2-2-1) \$18,500

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (3-1-1)

Article 13. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the purpose of providing compensation and employee benefits to Town employees during the ensuing fiscal year.

Amounts include salaries for the Administrative Assistant, Tax Collector, Office Assistants, and benefits for full-time town employees.

17/18 Budget \$133,739

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (4-1) \$153,210

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Note: This includes salaries, insurances, Social Security (for all departments), retirement, etc.

Article 14. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for general expenses associated with the operation of Town government.

17/18 Budget \$101,530

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$102,239

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Note: Includes audit fees, assessing fees, Maine Municipal Association dues, travel, training, computer software, maintenance, utilities, supplies, equipment, liability/workers comp insurance, contracted services, etc.

Article 15. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for elections expenses.

17/18 Budget \$2,300

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$ 1,650

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Article 16. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for legal expenses.

17/18 Budget \$5,000

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$5,000

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Article 17. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Planning Board expenses and Code Enforcement Officer expenses.

17/18 Budget \$10,000

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$10,400

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Article 18. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Townhouse (Historical Society) building expenses.

17/18 Budget \$900

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$1,800

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Article 19. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the operation of the Whitefield Fire Department.

17/18 Budget \$82,000

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$89,347

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Article 20. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Animal Control Contract.

17/18 Budget \$5,000

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (4-1) \$5,000

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Article 21. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for repair and maintenance of Town roads.

17/18 Budget \$435,341

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (4-1) \$397,375

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Article 22. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for winter maintenance of Town roads.

17/18 Budget \$250,550

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$290,682

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Article 23. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the General Assistance Program.

17/18 Budget \$5,000

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$3,250

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Article 24. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate in support of the following outside services: Lincoln County Humane Society, \$ 2,300; Hatch Hill, \$ 23,000.

17/18 Budget \$25,300

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$25,300

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Article 25. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for salaries, utilities and maintenance for the Recycling Center.

17/18 Budget \$3,750

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$3,661

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Article 26. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for town office capital outlay.

17/18 Budget \$29,000

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (4-1) \$8,000

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Note: the funds are for the installation of an electricity generator at the town office.

Article 27. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Fire Department capital outlay.

17/18 Budget \$9,000.00

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$9,000

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Article 28. To see what sum the Town will vote to appropriate from surplus, effective immediately, to be expended for repairs of the Leonard's Bridge Culvert on South Hunts Meadow Road.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$50,000
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to lapse all balances into undesignated Fund Balance except those which must be carried forward by statute and the balances of the following accounts: Town Roads, Town House, Emergency Management Operations, Leonard's Bridge Culvert, Fire Department Capital Outlay and Coopers Mill Dam Repairs that will not lapse and to allow the Select Board to expend from them in future years for their designated purposes.

Article 30. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Tax Anticipation Note.
17/18 Budget \$600

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$600
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Article 31. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for soldiers' graves.
17/18 Budget \$300

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$300
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

Article 32. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to support the debt service incurred for the Fire Department.
17-18 Budget \$53,596

Fire Truck Principal	\$16,216
Fire Truck Interest	\$5,731
Fire Station Principal	\$18,272
Fire Station Interest	<u>\$12,982</u>
	\$53,201

Article 33. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for donations to the following organizations:

	17-18 Budget	18-19 Budget Select Board	18-19 Budget Budget Comm.
American Red Cross	\$100	\$ 250 (3-2)	\$250 (5-0)
Midcoast ME Comm. Action	\$ 1,000	\$1,000 (3-2)	\$1,000 (5-0)
Maine General Hospice	\$ 1,137	\$1,137 (3-2)	\$1,137 (5-0)
Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$ 1,000	\$1,000 (3-2)	\$1,000 (5-0)

New Hope For Women	\$ 580	\$580 (3-2)	\$580 (5-0)
Spectrum Generations	\$ 500	\$500 (3-2)	\$500 (5-0)
Young at Heart	\$ 150	\$150 (3-2)	\$150 (5-0)
Children Center	\$1,115	\$1,115 (1-4)	\$1,115 (0-3-2)
Healthy Kids	\$1,000	\$1,000 (3-2)	\$1,000 (5-0)
LifeFlight Foundation	\$ 0	\$0 (5-0)	\$0 (5-0)
Whitefield Cemetery	\$3,000	\$3,000 (5-0)	\$3,000 (5-0)
Total:	\$9,582	\$9,732	\$9,732

Article 34. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Whitefield Food Bank for the ensuing year.

17/18 Budget \$4,500

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$3,000.00.

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

NOTE: The Select Board will be using an additional \$3,000 from the Will Turner Charity Trust Fund for a total of \$6,000.

Article 35. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the care and maintenance of cemeteries.

17/18 Budget \$2,000

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$3,500.

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME (5-0)

NOTE: This amount does not include care and maintenance for Coopers Mills Cemetery, which is paid through the Will Turner Cemetery Trust.

Article 36. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate all funds received by the Town from the State of Maine for snowmobile registrations to the Snowmobile Club for the purpose of maintaining their snowmobile trails and to authorize the municipal officers to enter into an agreement with the Club, under such terms and conditions as the municipal officers may deem advisable, for that purpose. These funds are to be used for the maintenance of snowmobile trails within the Town and will be open to the public at all times and free of charge.

Article 37. To authorize the Select Board to accept and expend any other revenue from State, Federal, local and private sources for the support of the Town.

Article 38. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to move funds in the municipal budget from categories with balances to those with deficits.

Article 39. To be decided by written ballot:

To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Whitefield by State Law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limit.

Article 40. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, and to authorize the Select Board to expend from the following General Fund revenue sources to be used toward the July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 budget appropriation, thereby decreasing the amount to be raised from property taxes:

Auto Excise	\$370,000
BMV Agent	\$6,800
Revenue Sharing	\$100,000
Homestead Exemption	\$50,000
Business Equipment Tax Exemption	\$5,000
Local Roads Assistance Program	\$46,000
Veterans' Exemption	\$2,000
Tree Growth	\$7,000
Interest on Taxes	\$2,300
Lien Cost	\$5,000
Other non-property	\$12,500
Unassigned surplus	\$50,000

17/18 Budget \$437,000.00

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS (5-0) \$656,600

The Registrar will be in session during Town Meeting to register anyone eligible to vote in Town affairs.

Fail not to make return on this warrant with your doings thereon or at said meeting of the Select Board.

Given under our hands and seal in the said Town of Whitefield this 27th day of February, 2018.



Anthony F. Marple



Lester E. Sheaffer Jr.



Franklin A. Ober



Charlene Donahue



William C. McKeen

A true copy of the warrant



Attest: Aaron C. Miller
Clerk of Whitefield