

Whitefield, Maine
Annual Town Meeting
March 16, 2002

The Whitefield Town Meeting was held at the Whitefield School on March 16, 2002, to vote on Articles for the July 1, 2002, through June 30, 2003, fiscal year.

The meeting was called to order by Gwyn Dixon at 10:00 a.m. She read the preamble to the warrant and constable's return and acted upon Article 1.

Article 1. To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

Brian Huntley was elected moderator.

Mrs. Dixon administered the oath of office before the assembled voters. Mr. Huntley then declared the polls open. Polls were open until 5:00 p.m. There were approximately 41 people present at 10:00 a.m.; approximately 52 at 10:30 a.m.

Article 2. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year: 327 votes were cast with 44 write-in votes for various candidates.

Office	Candidate	Vote
Selectman (3-year term)	David V. Hardman, Jr.	40
Selectman (3-year term)	Steven C. McCormick	272 *
School Committee (3-year term)	Barbara Welch Delvecchio	225 *
School Committee (3-year term)	Hilary H. Holm	195 *
School Committee (3-year term)	Lori A. Latour	63
School Committee (3-year term)	Tammy M. Thayer-Hardman	61
School Committee (1-year term)	Marianne B. Marple	289 *
Road Commissioner (1-year term)	David A. Boynton	274 *
Planning Board (2-year term)	Anthony F. Marple	263 *
Planning Board (2-year term)	Susan B. McKeen	247 *

Article 3. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Town Officers salaries for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$75,875.80 and appropriate from excise taxes \$15,282.00; Total \$91,157.80.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$75,875.80 and appropriate from excise taxes \$15,282.00. Total of \$91,157.80.

Article 4. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for insurance for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes

\$8,500.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$8,500.00.

Article 5. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to join the Maine Municipal Association Risk Pool for liability and bond insurance.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the Selectmen to join the Maine Municipal Association Risk Pool for liability and bond insurance.

Article 6. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to join the Maine Municipal Association Public Officials Liability Insurance Group.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the Selectmen to join the Maine Municipal Association Public Officials Liability Insurance Group.

Article 7. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to join the Maine Municipal Association Workers Compensation Fund.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the Selectmen to join the Maine Municipal Association Workers Compensation Fund.

Article 8. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for joining the Maine Municipal Association for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$2,200.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$2,200.00.

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to fix the wages of people, trucks, and other equipment of the highways for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend State wages.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the selectmen's recommendation to fix the wages of people, trucks, and other equipment of the highways at State wages for the ensuing year.

Article 10. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for cutting brush, grading, surfacing, paving, and repairing Town roads for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to appropriate from excise taxes

\$48,768.00, and to appropriate from the State Block Grant \$59,232.00.
Total of \$108,000.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to appropriate from excise taxes \$48,768.00, and to appropriate from the State Block Grant \$59,232.00. Total of \$108,000.00.

Article 11. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for snowplowing and sanding roads for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to appropriate from excise taxes \$134,950.00. Total of \$134,950.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to appropriate from excise taxes \$134,950.00.

Article 12. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for salt shed maintenance for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to appropriate from excise taxes \$1,000.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to appropriate from excise taxes \$1,000.00.

Article 13. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for General Government for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$35,875.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$35,875.00.

Article 14. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Town Office operations for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$19,050.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$19,050.00.

Article 15. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Townhouse repair and maintenance for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$4,000.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$4,000.00.

Article 16. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to be divided equally among the three volunteer fire departments in Kings Mills, North Whitefield, and Coopers Mills stations for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$39,000.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$39,000.00.

Article 17. To see what sum the Town will vote to appropriate for replacing personal protective gear for current Fire Department members for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to appropriate year-end balance from reserve fund \$5,000.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to appropriate year-end balance from reserve fund \$5,000.00.

Article 18. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for air pack replacement for Firefighters. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$7,500.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$7,500.00.

Article 19. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Firefighter physicals for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$1,000.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$1,000.00.

Article 20. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Whitefield First Responders. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$5,800.00 and to appropriate from ambulance balance \$4,375.00. Total of \$10,175.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$5,800.00 and to appropriate from ambulance balance \$4,375.00. Total of \$10,175.00.

Article 21. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Fire Department truck loan. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$5,978.58.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$5,978.58.

Article 22. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for fire education material for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$250.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$250.00.

Article 23. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for civil defense for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$1,000.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$1,000.00.

Article 24. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for forest fires for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$500.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$500.00.

Article 25. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Hepatitis B vaccine for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$500.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$500.00.

Article 26. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the General Assistance Program for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$5,000.00. Budget Committee recommends same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Budget Committee's recommendation to raise from taxes \$5,000.00.

Article 27. To see if the Town of Whitefield will vote to amend Section 4 of the existing road naming ordinance by adding the following:

Once a road has been named under Section 4 of the existing road naming ordinance, it may only be renamed under the following conditions:

- a. The proposed renaming is agreed to in writing by 90% or more of the residents of the affected road.
- b. All residents requesting and agreeing to the name change will pay for all costs incurred for changing the name including road signs.
- c. After above conditions are met the name will be changed by:

(1) a majority of the voters at the next annual Town Meeting

OR

(2) a majority of the Board of Selectmen at a regularly scheduled Selectmen's meeting

A motion was made and seconded to amend Section 4 of the existing Road Naming Ordinance by adding the proposed amendment through subsection c as written, with the addition of Option (1) to require that the name will be changed by a majority of the voters at the next Annual Town Meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to amend Section 4 of the existing Road Naming Ordinance by adding the following:

Once a road has been named under this section, the Selectmen shall rename roads only if all of the following conditions are met:

- a. The proposed rename is agreed to in writing by at least 2/3 of the residents on the affected road;*
- b. The proposed renaming improves public safety;*
- c. The proposed renaming is consistent with the "Maine Enhanced 9-1-1 Addressing Guidelines for Local Governments";*
- d. The proposed name has a reasonable historical basis; and*
- e. The proposed renaming has been subject to at least one public hearing.*

Any proposed road name change failing to meet any of the above conditions may be approved only at a regular Annual Town Meeting.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a two-thirds majority vote to cease debate and vote on the proposed amendment. The amendment failed to carry (26 in favor and 54 opposed) and debate resumed on the main motion.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a two-thirds majority vote to cease debate (47 in favor and 13 opposed) and vote on the main motion. The main motion carried by a majority vote (58 in favor and

15 opposed).

Article 28. To see if the Town of Whitefield will vote to accept the following "ORDER OF CLOSING": Following a public hearing pursuant to Title 23 MRSA Section 2953(2), the undersigned Selectmen of the Town of Whitefield hereby order the Ben Bailey Road be closed to winter maintenance for the period of 5 years during the months of October to and including April.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Order of Closing as written.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a two-thirds majority vote to cease debate and vote on the motion.

The motion failed to carry.

Article 29. To see if the Town of Whitefield will vote to authorize the Selectmen to develop a proposal to separate the open portion of the Annual Town Meeting from the secret ballot voting. The proposal would be voted on at the 2003 Whitefield Annual Town Meeting.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the Selectmen to develop a proposal to separate the open portion of the Annual Town Meeting from the secret ballot voting with the proposal to be voted on at the 2003 Whitefield Annual Town Meeting.

At 12:30 p.m., a motion was made and seconded to recess Town Meeting until 1:00 p.m. A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to reconvene Town Meeting at 12:45 p.m. The motion failed to carry by a majority (17 in favor and 17 opposed). The main motion failed to carry and the School Committee Articles were acted upon. There were approximately 88 voters present at this time.

Article 30. To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will authorize the School Committee to expend for Elementary Programs. School Committee recommends \$880,294.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to expend \$880,294.00 for Elementary Programs.

Article 31. To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will authorize the School Committee to expend for Secondary Programs. School Committee recommends \$906,180.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to expend \$906,180.00 for Secondary Programs.

Article 32. To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will authorize the School Committee to expend for Special Education Programs. School Committee recommends \$697,980.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to expend \$697,980.00 for Special Education Programs.

Article 33. To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will authorize the School Committee to expend for Food Service Programs. School Committee recommends \$102,046.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to expend \$102,046.00 for Food Service Programs.

Article 34. To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will authorize the School Committee to expend for Undistributed Expenditures.

213, 221, 222, 231, 232,	Support Services &
241, 253, 255	Administration
260	Operations and Maintenance
270	Transportation
510	Debt Service
410	Other Public Instruction

School Committee recommends \$705,079.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to expend \$705,079.00 for Undistributed Expenditures.

Article 35. To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will appropriate from the foundation allocation for school purposes (Recommend \$2,670,295.69) and to see what sum the Town of Whitefield will raise as the local share of the foundation allocation. School Committee recommends \$1,005,565.98.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to appropriate \$2,670,295.69

from the foundation allocation and to raise \$1,005,565.98 as the local share of the foundation allocation.

Article 36. To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will appropriate from the debt service allocation (recommend \$52,837.33) and to see what sum the Town of Whitefield will raise as the local share of the debt service allocation. School Committee recommends \$22,894.41.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to appropriate \$52,837.33 from the debt service allocation and to raise \$22,894.41 as the local share of the debt service allocation.

Article 37. To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will raise in additional local funds under the provisions of 20-A MRSA Section 15614. School Committee recommends \$361,995.29.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to raise \$361,995.29 in additional local funds under 20-A MRSA Section 15614.

Article 38. To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will appropriate from municipal and school surplus for school facilities (Recommend \$37,500) to be expended for repairs to gym roof, gym siding, doors, and windows, parking lot and sidewalk paving. Any funds not expended under this article shall be designated for the school building fund.

Surplus includes:

1. \$3,800 balance from parking lot project
2. \$7,000 from municipal surplus
3. \$8,000 from building fund
4. \$19,000 from local surplus raised for school bus purchase

School Committee recommends \$37,500.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to appropriate \$37,500.00 from municipal and school surplus for school facilities.

Article 39. To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will authorize the School Committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2002 and ending June 30, 2003 from the foundation allocation, debt service allocation, unexpended balances, local appropriations, state subsidy, and other receipts in support of schools. School Committee recommends \$3,329,079.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to expend \$3,329,079.00 for

the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2002 and ending June 30, 2003.

Article 40. To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will appropriate for Adult Education (Recommend \$13,678.24) and to see what sum the Town of Whitefield will raise as the local share (Recommend \$8,135.90) with authorization to expend said appropriated sums and any additional incidental, or miscellaneous receipts and grants. School Committee recommends \$8,135.90.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to appropriate \$13,678.24 for Adult Education and raise \$8,135.90 as the local share.

Article 41. To authorize the School Committee to transfer up to four percent (4%) of any warrant line item account to another. School Committee recommends this article.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation.

Article 42. To see if the Town of Whitefield will vote to accept and expend any additional miscellaneous funds, receipts, and grants in support of the school. School Committee recommends this article.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation.

Article 43. To see if the Town of Whitefield will vote to appropriate and expend up to 50% of any unanticipated State General Purpose Aid or Federal Aid to education monies, to lower the local share of monies raised for the Whitefield School at the 2002 March Town Meeting. School Committee recommends this article.

Note: This budget does not include the estimated amount of \$179,191.00 in employer share of teacher retirement cost that is paid directly by the State.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation.

Article 44. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to transfer up to 10% of any line item account to another.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to

authorize the Selectmen to transfer up to 10% of any line item account to another.

Article 45. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$200,000.00 from surplus to reduce the amount of money needed to be raised in taxes for the municipal budget.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the Selectmen to appropriate \$200,000.00 from surplus to reduce the amount of money needed to be raised in taxes.

Article 46. To see if the Town will fix a date when the taxes shall be due and payable, and to see if the Town will fix a rate of interest to be charged on unpaid taxes after said date. Selectmen recommend November 30, 2002, and April 30, 2003, and an interest rate of 6.75 percent.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the Selectmen to set November 30, 2002, and April 30, 2003, as dates when the taxes shall be due and payable and an interest rate of 6.75 percent to be charged on unpaid taxes after said dates.

Article 47. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town of Whitefield, 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 execute quit-claim for same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the Selectmen to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for nonpayment of taxes thereon.

Article 48. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for solid waste for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$24,000.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$24,000.00.

Article 49. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the recycling program for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$3,000.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$3,000.00.

Article 50. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the maintenance of a recycling building. Selectmen recommend to raise from

taxes \$500.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$500.00.

Article 51. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for tax maps/tax cards for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$15,000.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$15,000.00.

Article 52. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Town records restoration for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$2,000.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$2,000.00.

Article 53. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for street lights for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$3,500.00.

A motion was made to raise \$0.00 for street lights. The motion failed to receive a second.

A motion was then made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$3,500.00.

Article 54. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Planning Board for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$1,500.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$1,500.00.

Article 55. To see if the Town of Whitefield will vote to earmark all funds received from the Snowmobile Registration refund program, to be used to maintain trails and bridges within the Town of Whitefield. All expenditures to be approved by the Selectmen. Selectmen recommend this article.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the Selectmen's recommendation to earmark all funds received from the Snowmobile Registration refund program, to be used to maintain trails and bridges within the Town of Whitefield.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a two-thirds majority vote to combine Articles 56 through 68 for simultaneous consideration.

- Article 56.** *To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Red Cross for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$200.00.*
- Article 57.** *To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Catholic Charities Maine Family & Community Services. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$50.00.*
- Article 58.** *To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the decoration of soldiers graves in town for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$650.00.*
- Article 59.** *To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for New Hope for Women. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$150.00.*
- Article 60.** *To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Kennebec Valley Mental Health Center for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$1,957.95.*
- Article 61.** *To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Kennebec Valley Humane Society for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$3,136.74.*
- Article 62.** *To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Senior Spectrum for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$958.00.*
- Article 63.** *To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Kno-Wal-Lin Community Health Center for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$1,810.00.*
- Article 64.** *To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Coastal Economic Development for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$1,000.00.*
- Article 65.** *To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Hospice Volunteers of Kennebec Valley for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$763.00.*
- Article 66.** *To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Coastal Trans for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes*

\$200.00.

Article 67. *To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Whitefield Food Bank for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$200.00.*

Article 68. *To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Young at Heart Senior Citizens for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$150.00.*

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the Selectmen's recommendation on Articles 56 through 68.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

Results of Referenda Questions:

Question No. 1: **To see if the Town of Whitefield will vote to freeze the amount of money raised from property taxes for both the Municipal and School budgets for the 2002-2003 budget year to no more than 5% of the current 2001-2002 amount of each separate budget.**

Yes 149

No 176

Question No. 2: **Shall an Ordinance entitled "Development Ordinance of the Town of Whitefield" be amended as shown by the portions underscored (additions) and struck through (deletions)?**

Yes 153

No 141

The preceding is a true and accurate account of the actions by the Town of Whitefield at the Annual Town Meeting March 16, 2002.

Attest: _____
Gwyn Benson Dixon
Town Clerk