



Whitefield, Maine Annual Town Meeting March 16, 2013

The Whitefield Town Meeting was held at the Whitefield School on March 16, 2013, to vote on Articles for the July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, fiscal year.

The meeting was called to order by Aaron Miller at 8:00 a.m. He read the preamble to the Warrant and Return on the Warrant and acted upon Article 1.

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

Jeff Frankel was elected moderator by written ballot.

Mr. Miller administered the oath of office before the assembled voters. Mr. Frankel then declared the polls open at 8:00 a.m. Polls were open until 12:00 p.m.

Article 2. To elect all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

Candidates marked with an asterisk were elected:

Office	Candidate	Vote
Selectman (3-year term)	Samuel Bartlett	70
	Anthony Marple	116*
	Franklin Ober	83*
Road Commissioner (1-year term)	David Boynton	140*
School Board (3-year term)	Hilary Holm	138*

The moderator called the open portion of Town Meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. There were 59 voters present at 2:05 p.m. The moderator announced the results of the Candidates election.

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 after said dates, and to allow the Tax Collector and Treasurer to accept the prepayment of taxes not yet committed pursuant to 36 MRSA SS 506.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote with one opposed to set the interest rate of 7 %.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon, for such terms as they deem advisable and execute quitclaim for same.

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

Article 5. To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer to waive the foreclosure of tax lien mortgages pursuant to 36 MRSA ss 944 upon finding by the Selectmen that ownership of the property subject to lien would be contrary to the town's best interest.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the treasurer to waive the foreclosure of tax lien mortgages upon finding that ownership would be contrary to the town's best interest.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate surplus funds to pay for tax abatements and any interest due thereon.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to appropriate surplus funds to pay for tax abatements and any interest due.

Article 7. To see what sums the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the following organizations.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to raise for the following organizations:

American Red Cross \$100
Midcoast Maine Community Action \$1,000
Kennebec Behavioral Health \$1,000
New Hope for Women \$290
Spectrum Generations \$500
Young at Heart \$0

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to raise \$0 for Healthy Kids. A motion to hear Stuart Smith, Vice President of Healthy Kids, was seconded and carried by a majority vote. Hilary Holm motioned to amend the \$0 amount to \$1,000. The motion to raise \$1,000 for Healthy Kids passed.

**Healthy Kids \$1,000
Children's Center \$250**

Article 8. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Whitefield Food Bank for the ensuing year.
Selectmen recommended to raise from taxes \$3,000.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise and appropriate \$3,000 for the Whitefield Food Bank.

Article 9. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate \$5,000 for the Whitefield Cemetery Corporation for the ensuing year.
Selectmen made no recommendation on this article.

A motion was made, seconded and carried 32-16 to raise and appropriate \$5,000 for the Whitefield Cemetery Corporation.

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to rescind warrant Article 43 passed March 6, 1954, that reads, "To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Selectmen to notify by mail all voters on record, of the call of each Special Town Meeting within 48 hours of such calling.

A motion was made by Charlene Donahue to amend the article to read, "To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Selectmen to notify all voters by mail or electronic mail, of the call of each Special Town Meeting within 48 hours of such calling. The motion was seconded, however, failed by majority vote.

A motion was made and seconded to vote on Article 10. The article failed by majority vote.

Article 11. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to dispose of the un-motorized road grader currently stored at the Sand and Salt Shed on such terms as they deem advisable, including donation to a suitable historical society or museum.

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

donate the grader to a suitable historical society or museum.

Article 12. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to dispose of town-owned personal property with a value of \$1,000 or less under such terms as they deem advisable?

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the Selectmen to dispose of town-owned personal property with a value of \$1,000 or less.

Article 13. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Town Officer's salaries for the ensuing year.
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$132,262.
Budget Committee recommended the same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations to raise from taxes \$132,262.

Article 14. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for insurance for the ensuing year.
Selectmen recommend raising from taxes \$12,250.
Budget Committee (8-0) recommends the same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations to raise from taxes \$12,250.

Article 15 To see what sum 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 raise from taxes and appropriate \$165,000.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$165,000.

Article 16. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for snowplowing and sanding roads for the ensuing year.
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes and appropriate \$232,000.
Budget Committee (6-0) recommends the same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations to raise from taxes \$232,000.

Article 17. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for General Government for the ensuing year.
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes and appropriate \$48,527.
Budget Committee (6-0) recommends the same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations to raise from taxes \$48,527.

Article 18. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for joining the Maine Municipal Association for the ensuing year.
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes and appropriate \$2,747.
Budget Committee (6-0) recommends the same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations to raise from taxes \$2,747.

Article 19. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Town Office operations for the ensuing year.
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes and appropriate \$20,255.
Budget Committee (6-0) recommends the same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations to raise from taxes \$20,255.

Article 20. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Townhouse repair and maintenance and to carry forward the balance at June 30, 2012, to the 2013 fiscal year.
12/13 budget \$500
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes and appropriate \$1,000.
Budget Committee (6-0) recommends the same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations and carry forward the balance.

Article 21. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for municipal fire and rescue services operating budget, in addition to \$51,357 for debt service for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$83,000, in addition to \$51,357 for debt service.

Budget Committee (6-0) recommends the same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations.

Article 22. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Fire Department Air Pack and Hose replacement for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$9,000. Budget Committee (6-0) recommends the same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations.

Article 23. 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. Budget Committee (6-0) recommends the same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations.

Article 24. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the decoration for soldiers' graves and Town cemeteries for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$3,500 with \$500 for the decoration of soldiers' graves and \$3,000 for Town Cemeteries. Budget Committee (6-0) recommends the same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations.

Article 25. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for solid waste and the recycling program and building for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$39,800 with \$34,300 for solid waste, and \$5,500 for the recycling program and building. Budget Committee (6-0) recommends the same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations.

Article 26. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for animal shelter service for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$1,701. Budget Committee (6-0) recommends the same.

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

accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations.

- Article 27.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for legal fees for the ensuing year.
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$5,000.
Budget Committee (6-0) recommends the same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations.

- Article 28.** To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for the Planning Board for the ensuing year.
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$2,000.
Budget Committee (6-0) recommends the same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations.

- Article 29.** To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for maintenance of the Salt and Sand Shed for the ensuing year.
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$3,200.
Budget Committee (6-0) recommends the same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations.

- Article 30.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for tax map updates and assessing for the ensuing year.
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$12,000.
Budget Committee (6-0) recommends the same.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen and Budget Committee recommendations.

- Article 31.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize Selectmen to move funds in the municipal budget from categories with balances to those with deficits.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize Selectmen to move funds in the municipal budget from categories with balances to those with deficits.

- Article 32.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to accept grants, donations and/or gifts of personal property, services or money for the benefit of the Town and to use non-lapsing accounts to administer funds for their intended purposes.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize Selectmen to accept grants, donations and/or gifts of personal property, services or money for the benefit of the Town.

Article 33. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to carry forward the balance of the Road, Townhouse and Coopers Mills Dam accounts on June 30, 2013 to fiscal year 2014.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize Selectmen to carry forward the balance of the Road, Townhouse and Coopers Mills Dam accounts.

Article 34. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate funds from the following sources to be applied toward the 2014 property tax commitment in order to reduce taxes.

Excise Tax Revenue	\$300,000
State Road Grant (URIP)	\$59,376
Unexpended Appropriations from FY 2012	\$30,000

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to appropriate the above funds to be applied toward 2014 property tax commitment.

Article 35. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to secure liability, bond insurance and public officials liability insurance and workers compensation by joining Maine Municipal Association's programs for these services or from other sources as they deem most advantageous.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the selectmen to secure insurance as they deem most advantageous.

Article 36. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to borrow such sums of money as may be necessary to pay current expenses in anticipation of taxes, terms not to exceed the current tax commitment.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the selectmen to borrow sums of money as may be necessary to pay current expenses in anticipation of taxes, terms not to exceed the current tax commitment.

Article 37. To see if the Town 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.

Selectmen recommend this article.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to earmark all funds from the Snowmobile Registration Refund Program to maintain trails and bridges within the Town of Whitefield.

The preceding is a true and accurate account of the actions taken by the Town of Whitefield at the Annual Town Meeting March 16, 2013.

Aaron C. Miller
Town Clerk