

**Whitefield, Maine**  
**Annual Town Meeting**  
**March 17, 2012**

The Whitefield Town Meeting was held at the Whitefield School on March 17, 2012, to vote on Articles for the July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013, fiscal year.

The meeting was called to order by Gwyn Dixon at 8:00 a.m. She 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.

**Brian Huntley was elected moderator by written ballot.**

Mrs. Dixon administered the oath of office before the assembled voters. Mr. Huntley then declared the polls open at 8:00 a.m. Polls were open until 12:00 p.m. The Moderator communicated a misprint in Article 16.

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

Office	Candidate	Vote
Selectman (3-year term)	Sheaffer, Jr., Lester E.	92*
Road Commissioner (1-year term)	Boynton, David A.	105*
School Committee (3-year term)	Caron, Malinda J. E. (Write-In)	19*
Planning Board (2-year term)	Torbert, James R. (Write-In)	27*
Planning Board (2-year term)	Spicer, David A. (Write-In)	13*

Candidates marked with an asterisk were elected: 120 ballots were cast with 129 write-in votes for various offices.

The moderator called the open portion of Town Meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. There were 39 voters present at 2:05 p.m. and 63 at 2:25 p.m. The moderator announced the results of the Candidates election.

The Moderator communicated the correct amount to be raised from taxes should be \$82,850.00 (not the \$93,850.00 reflected in Warrant Article 16).

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a two-thirds majority vote to allow State Representative Deborah Sanderson, Lisa Miller, and Les Fossel to speak, with a time limit of three minutes.

**Article 3.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Town Officers salaries for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$132,351.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$132,351.00.**

**Article 4.** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to join the Maine Municipal Association Risk Pool for liability and bond insurance, Maine Municipal Association Public Officials Liability Insurance Group, and 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 Risk Pool for liability and bond insurance, the Maine Municipal Association Public Officials Liability Insurance Group, and the Maine Municipal Association Workers Compensation Fund.**

**Article 5.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for insurance for the ensuing year.  
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$17,501.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$17,501.00.**

**Article 6.** 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 \$2,664.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$2,664.00.**

**Article 7.** Shall an Ordinance entitled "Notice to Build Ordinance for the Municipality of Whitefield" be enacted?

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to enact an Ordinance entitled "Notice to Build Ordinance for the Municipality of Whitefield".**

**Article 8.** 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 appropriate from excise taxes \$90,624.00 and to appropriate from the State Block Grant \$59,376.00. Total of \$150,000.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to appropriate from excise**

**taxes \$90,624.00 and to appropriate from the State Block Grant \$59,376.00. Total of \$150,000.00.**

**Article 9.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to carry forward the balance in the Road account from June 30, 2012, to the 2013 fiscal year.  
Selectmen recommend this article.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the Selectmen to carry forward the balance in the Road account.**

**Article 10.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from excise taxes for salt shed maintenance, snowplowing and sanding roads for the ensuing year.  
Selectmen recommend to appropriate from excise taxes \$209,376.00 and to raise from taxes \$36,824.00, with \$3,000.00 for salt shed maintenance. Total of \$246,200.00.

**A motion was made and seconded to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to appropriate from excise taxes \$209,376.00 and to raise from taxes \$36,824.00, with \$3,000.00 for salt shed maintenance. Total of \$246,200.00.**

**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to be a total of \$221,750.00.**

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

**The amendment failed to carry.**

**The main motion to accept the Selectmen's recommendation carried by a majority vote.**

**Article 11.** 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 \$50,989.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$50,989.00.**

<p>A motion was made, seconded and carried by a two-thirds majority to allow Senator Christopher Johnson and Commissioner Sheridan Bond to address the Town Meeting, with a time limit of three minutes.</p>
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**Article 12.** 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 \$5,000.00.

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

**Article 13.** 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 \$20,899.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$20,899.00.**

**Article 14.** 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.

Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$500.00 and to carry forward the balance.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$500.00 and to carry forward the balance at June 30, 2012, to the 2013 fiscal year.**

**Article 15.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Air Pack and Hose replacement for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$9,000.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$9,000.00.**

**Article 16.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for municipal fire and rescue services operating budget, in addition to \$52,496.00 for debt service for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$82,850.00, in addition to \$52,496.00 for debt service.

**A motion was made and seconded to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$82,850.00, in addition to \$52,496.00 for debt service.**

<p>A motion was made, seconded and carried by a two-thirds majority vote to allow Deputy Fire Chief Scott Higgins to speak to the articles regarding the Fire Department.</p>
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**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to raise \$71,600.00, in addition to \$52,496.00 for debt service.**

**The motion failed to carry.**

**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to raise \$80,050.00, in addition to the \$52,496.00 for debt service.**

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

**The motion failed to carry.**

**The main motion to accept the Selectmen's recommendation carried by a majority vote.**

**Article 17.** 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.

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

**Article 18.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for a dedicated, non-lapsing emergency relief fund. Expenditures from this fund must be only for disaster relief or emergency conditions in Town and approved by the Fire Chief (or Deputy Chief), the Emergency Management Director, and a member of the Select Board.  
11/12 budget \$0.00  
(Amount for Emergency Management and Forest Fires in prior years was \$1,500.00)  
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$2,000.00.

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

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a two-thirds majority to take up Article 40 out of order.**

**Article 40.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Whitefield Cemetery Corporation for the ensuing year.  
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$3,000.00.  
Budget Committee recommends \$1,000.00.

**A motion was made and seconded to accept the Budget Committee's recommendation to raise from taxes \$1,000.00.**

**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to raise from taxes \$5,000.00.**

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

**The motion to amend carried by a majority vote.**

**The amended main motion to raise \$5,000.00 from taxes carried by a majority vote.**

**Article 19.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to carry forward the balance in the Coopers Mills Dam repair account at June 30, 2012, to the 2013 fiscal year.  
Selectmen recommend this article.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the Selectmen to carry forward the balance in the Coopers Mills Dam repair account.**

**Article 20.** 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 21.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to accept or reject grants, donations and/or gifts of money to the various accounts of the Town of Whitefield for FY2013 and to expend monies donated for specific purposes.  
Selectmen recommend this article.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation as written.**

**Article 22.** 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 and to allow the Tax Collector to collect prepayment of taxes prior to commitment pursuant to Title 35 MRSA Section 36 (Prepayment of Taxes).  
Selectmen recommend November 30, 2012, and April 30, 2013, and an interest rate of 7.00 percent.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the Selectmen to set November 30, 2012, and April 30, 2013, as dates when the taxes shall be due and payable and an interest rate of 7.00 percent to be charged on unpaid taxes after said dates.**

**Article 23.** 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, such sums not to exceed the current tax commitment. Selectmen recommend this article.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation.**

**Article 24.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell and 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 the Selectmen to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes.**

**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 \$37,095.00, with \$34,095.00 for solid waste, and \$3,000.00 for the recycling program and building.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$37,095.00, with \$34,095.00 for solid waste, and \$3,000.00 for the recycling program and building.**

**Article 26.** 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 \$12,000.00, with \$2,500.00 for tax map updates and \$9,500.00 for assessing.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$12,000.00, with \$2,500.00 for tax map updates and \$9,500.00 for assessing.**

**Article 27.** 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 \$2,000.00.

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

**Article 28.** 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 accept the Selectmen's recommendation.**

**Article 29.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Humane Shelter for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$1,759.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$1,759.00.**

**Article 30.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the decoration of soldiers' graves and Town cemeteries for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$4,000.00, with \$1,000.00 for the decoration of soldiers' graves and \$3,000.00 for Town cemeteries.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation.**

**A motion was made and seconded to combine Articles 31 through 39 and Article 41 for simultaneous consideration. (Norman Best was granted leave to withdraw his motion to combine articles for simultaneous consideration.)**

**Article 31.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the American Red Cross for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$100.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$100.00.**

**Article 32.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Midcoast Maine Community Action 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 33.** 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 \$100.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$100.00.**

**Article 34.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for HealthReach for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$550.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$550.00.**

**Article 35.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Kennebec Behavioral Health 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 36.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Kno-Wal-Lin for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$900.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$900.00.**

**Article 37.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for New Hope for Women for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$290.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$290.00.**

**Article 38.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Spectrum Generations for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$450.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$450.00.**

**Article 39.** 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 \$3,000.00.

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

**Article 41.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the 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 accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$150.00.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

The preceding is a true and accurate account of the actions taken by the Town of Whitefield at the Annual Town Meeting March 17, 2012.

Gwyn Benson Dixon  
Town Clerk