

## Whitefield Annual Town Meeting Minutes 3/17/17 & 3/18/17

### Article 1

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

*Jeff Frankel was elected moderator by written ballot on March 17, 2017.*

### Article 2

To elect by secret ballot municipal officers namely, two Selectmen/Assessors/Overseers of the Poor for a three-year-term; one Road Commissioner for a three-year-term; one RSU 12 School Board member for a one-year-term; and three openings on the planning board for a two-year-term.

*William McKeen (103) and Charlene Donahue (121) were elected, defeating Bruce Mathews (93) for selectmen. Incumbent David Boynton ran unopposed and won the Road Commissioner's seat. There were only two candidates for three open positions on the Planning Board. Elected were Marianne Marple (150) and Glenn Angell (137). Steve Sheehy was the leading write-in candidate with 23 votes. Sheehy later accepted the position to the planning board.*

*The annual town meeting reconvened at Whitefield Elementary School on March 18, 2017. About 80 residents were in attendance.*

### 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 MRSA §506.

15/16 budget year interest rate 4%.

Selectmen recommend 4% November 30, 2017 and April 30, 2018.

*Selectmen's recommendation was moved and seconded, approved.*

### Article 4

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 deeds for the same.

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

### Article 5

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

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

Article 6

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

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

Article 7

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

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

Article 8

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Town Officials' salaries and benefits for the ensuing year.

16/17 budget \$150,198

Selectmen recommend (5-0) \$150,539

Budget Committee (6-0) recommends same.

**(Note: includes salaries, insurances, travel, Social Security, training, etc.)**

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

Article 9

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for insurance for the ensuing year.

16/17 budget \$14,070

Selectmen recommend (5-0) \$13,000

Budget Committee (6-0) recommends same.

**Note: includes property and workman's compensation**

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

Article 10

To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for general government for the ensuing year.

16/17 budget \$74,519

Selectmen recommend (5-0) \$84,168

Budget Committee (6-0) recommends same.

**Note: includes Planning Board, building maintenance, utilities, software, supplies, code enforcement, assessing, etc.**

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

Article 11

To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for Town house heating and maintenance  
16/17 budget \$900  
Selectmen recommend \$900  
Budget Committee (6-0) recommends same

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

Article 12  
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.  
16/17 budget \$393,375  
Selectmen recommend (4-1) \$400,375 (\$350,375 raised plus \$50,000 from carryover)  
Budget Committee (6-0) recommends same.

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

Article 13  
To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for contracted services  
16/17 budget \$47,800  
Selectmen recommend \$48,800  
Budget Committee recommends same

**Note: includes legal, audit, humane society, animal control, solid waste and mowing**

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

Article 14  
To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for snowplowing and sanding roads and salt shed maintenance for the ensuing year.  
16/17 budget \$246,500  
Selectmen recommend (5-0) \$250,000  
Budget Committee (6-0) recommends same.

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

Article 15  
To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for municipal fire and rescue services operating budget for the ensuing year.  
16/17 budget \$91,000  
Selectmen recommend (5-0) \$91,000  
Budget Committee (6-0) recommends same.

**Note: includes operating and capital**

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

Article 16

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

16/17 budget \$5,000

Selectmen recommend (5-0) \$5,000

Budget Committee (6-0) recommends same.

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

Article 17

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for miscellaneous expenses for the ensuing year.

To be voted on as a group after individual discussion and/or amendment as needed.

	16/17 Budget	Selectmen recommend	Budget Committee recommends
Whitefield cemetery	\$2,000	\$3,000 (5-0)	\$3,000 (6-0)
Soldiers Graves	\$300	\$300 (5-0)	\$300 (6-0)
Recycling	\$3,500	\$3,500 (5-0)	\$3,500 (6-0)
ME Municipal Assoc. dues	\$2,931	\$3,000 (5-0)	\$3,000 (6-0)
TOTAL	\$8,731	\$9,800	\$9,800

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

Article 18

To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the following organizations for the ensuing year.

To be voted on as a group after individual discussion and/or amendment as needed.

	16/17 Budget	Selectmen recommends	Budget committee recommends
Red Cross	\$250	\$100 (4-1)	\$100 (6-0)
Mid Coast Maine	\$1,000	\$1,000 (4-1)	\$1,000 (6-0)
ME General Hospice	\$1,137	\$1,137 (4-1)	\$1,137 (6-0)
Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$1,000	\$1,000 (4-1)	\$1,000 (6-0)
New Hope for Women	\$580	\$580 (4-1)	\$580 (6-0)
Spectrum Generations	\$500	\$500 (4-1)	\$500 (6-0)
Young at Heart	\$150	\$150 (4-1)	\$150 (6-0)
Children Center	\$1,150	\$1,150 (4-1)	\$1,150 (6-0)

Healthy Kids	\$0	\$1,000 (4-1)	\$1,000 (6-0)
Life Flight	\$0	\$0 (5-0)	\$0 (6-0)
Maine Public Radio	\$0	\$0 (5-0)	\$0 (6-0)
TOTAL	\$ 5,767	\$6,617	\$6,617

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

#### Article 19

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

16/17 Budget \$4,500

Selectmen recommend (5-0) to raise \$2,000 and appropriate \$2,500 from the Worthy Poor Fund. Budget Committee (6-0) recommends same.

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

#### Article 20

To see if the Town will authorize \$29,000 for Town Office renovations to be appropriated from surplus.

Selectmen (5-0) and Budget Committee (6-0) recommend this article

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

#### Article 21

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

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

#### Article 22

To see if the Town will vote to authorize Selectmen to accept grants, donation 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.

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

#### Article 23

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to carry forward the balances of the Roads, Town Office maintenance, Townhouse and Coopers Mills Dam accounts on June 30, 2017 to fiscal year 2018.

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

#### Article 24

To see what sums the Town will vote to appropriate from the following sources to be applied

toward the 2017 property tax commitment in order to reduce taxes.

Selectmen recommend the following

Excise Tax Revenue	\$350,000
Road Grant	\$46,000
Miscellaneous revenue	\$56,000
Unassigned surplus	\$300,000

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

#### Article 25

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into multi-year-contracts (not to exceed 3 years) for the purpose of negotiating optimal pricing for the procurement of certain services necessary to the Town.

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

#### Article 26 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 that property tax levy limit.

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

#### Article 27

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to secure liability, bond insurance, 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.

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

#### 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.

*Article was moved and seconded, approved.*

A true copy of the warrant

Attest: Aaron C. Miller

Clerk of Whitefield