

**Whitefield, Maine**  
**Annual Town Meeting**  
**March 19, 2011**

The Whitefield Town Meeting was held at the Whitefield School on March 19, 2011, to vote on Articles for the July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012, 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.

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

| Office                          | Candidate                   | Vote |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------|
| Selectman (3-year term)         | McCormick, Steven C.        | 179* |
| Selectman (3-year term)         | Merrill, Dennis L.          | 118* |
| Selectman (3-year term)         | Spicer, David A.            | 68   |
| Selectman (3-year term)         | Vigue, Jeffrey L.           | 61   |
| Selectman (2-year term)         | Colpitt, Thomas             | 219* |
| Road Commissioner (1-year term) | Boynton, David A.           | 180* |
| Road Commissioner (1-year term) | Monroe, Frank M.            | 53   |
| School Committee (3-year term)  | Morin, Joan M.              | 198* |
| Planning Board (2-year term)    | Bills, Robert J. (Write-In) | 30*  |
| Planning Board (2-year term)    | Smith, Stephen C.           | 150* |
| Planning Board (2-year term)    | Roberts, Ann (Write-In)     | 27*  |
| Planning Board (1-year term)    | Roberts, Ann (Write-In)     | 10** |

Candidates marked with an asterisk were elected: 244 ballots were cast with 127 write-in votes for various offices.

\*\* Ann Roberts took the oath for the two-year Planning Board position, leaving a vacancy in the one-year position; Selectmen appointed David A. Spicer to fill this vacancy.

**Article 3.** Shall the Town vote by secret ballot to establish a five-member Assessors' Board consisting of citizens of the Town of Whitefield, which will assume all the responsibilities, associated with real estate assessing from the present three-member Selectmen's Board? Each member will be elected at a regular March Town Meeting for a three-year term. This

Assessors' Board will have the authority to select and hire an assessor to assist the Board in its duties, if so desired.

**Yes 110**

**No 134**

The moderator called the open portion of Town Meeting to order at 2:15 p.m. There were 119 voters present at 2:30 p.m. The moderator announced the results of the Candidates and Referendum Election. Steve McCormick introduced Staff Sgt. Jacob Mathews of the Maine Army National Guard. Jake presented certificates of appreciation from the Town to Sgt. Nathaniel McCray and Sgt. Joseph Emery, both of whom have been previously deployed to Afghanistan, within the past five years. Sgt. Emery was unable to attend, but his family members were there. A motion was made, seconded and carried by a two-thirds majority vote to allow State Representative Deborah Sanderson to speak; she presented awards from the Legislature to Nathaniel McCray and Joseph Emery, whose family accepted the plaque. Frank Ober commended Jim Brann, presenting a plaque for his twenty years of fire and rescue service to the Town as Whitefield Fire Chief.

**Article 4.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Town Officers salaries for the ensuing year.

**A motion was made and seconded to accept the Budget Committee's recommendation to raise from taxes \$125,947.00 and to appropriate from the Animal Control revenue account \$4,000.00. Total of \$129,947.00.**

**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to raise from taxes \$127,947.00 and to appropriate from the Animal Control revenue account \$4,000.00. Total of \$131,947.00.**

**The motion failed to carry.**

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

**Article 5.** 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 6.** 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.  
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 \$17,501.00.**

**Article 7.** 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 \$2,599.00.  
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 \$2,599.00.**

**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 \$54,624.00 and to appropriate from the State Block Grant \$59,376.00. Total of \$114,000.00.  
Budget Committee recommends same

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Budget Committee's recommendation to appropriate from excise taxes \$54,624.00 and to appropriate from the State Block Grant \$59,376.00. Total of \$114,000.00.**

**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, 2011, to the 2012 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 \$221,750.00, with \$1,000.00 for salt shed maintenance.  
Budget Committee recommends same

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Budget Committee's recommendation to appropriate from excise taxes \$221,750.00, with \$1,000.00 for salt shed maintenance.**

**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 \$50,964.00.  
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 \$50,964.00.**

**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.  
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 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 \$18,625.00.  
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 \$18,625.00.**

**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, 2011, to the 2012 fiscal year.  
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$500.00 and to carry forward the balance.  
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 \$500.00 and to carry forward the balance at June 30, 2011, to the 2012 fiscal year.**

**Article 15.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for municipal fire and rescue services operating budget, in addition to \$51,418.00 for debt service for the ensuing year.  
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$73,600.00, in addition to \$51,418.00 for debt service.  
Budget Committee recommends same

**A motion was made and seconded to accept the Budget Committee's recommendation to raise from taxes \$73,600.00, in addition to \$51,418.00 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> |
|---|

**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to accept the Budget Committee's recommendation and raise an additional \$1,350.00 from taxes to establish a contingency fund.**

**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to accept the Budget Committee's recommendation and raise an additional \$1,350.00 from taxes to establish a contingency fund to be capped at \$10,000.00 but roll the Fire Department surplus into the General Fund.**

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

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the main motion.**

**Article 16.** 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 17.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to carry forward the balance of \$8,204.00 in the Townhouse Road Capital Reserve from fiscal 2010 to fiscal 2011.  
Selectmen recommend this article.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to carry forward the balance of \$8,204.00 in the Townhouse Road Capital Reserve.**

- Article 18.** 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, 2011, to the 2012 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 19.** 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 20.** 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 FY2012 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 21.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the \$14,739.00 in the School Building Fund and an additional \$13,626.00 from excise taxes to reduce the amount of money needed to be raised in taxes.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the Selectmen to appropriate the \$14,739.00 in the School Building Fund and an additional \$13,626.00 from excise taxes to reduce the amount of money needed to be raised in taxes.**

- 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, 2011, and April 30, 2012, 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, 2011, and April 30, 2012, 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. 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 \$37,095.00, with \$34,095.00 for solid waste, and \$3,000.00 for the recycling program and building.**

**A motion was made and seconded to reconsider previous action taken on Article 4.**

**The motion failed to carry.**

**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. 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 \$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.  
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 \$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 the Whitefield Cemetery Corporation for the ensuing year.  
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$5,750.00, with \$1,000.00 for the decoration of soldiers' graves, \$2,500.00 for the Whitefield Cemetery Corporation, and \$2,250.00 for Town cemeteries.  
Budget Committee recommends same.

**A motion was made and seconded to accept the Budget Committee's recommendation.**

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to amend the main motion to add \$2,500.00 to the Article for a total of \$8,250.00, with \$1,000.00 for soldiers' graves, \$5,000.00 for the Whitefield Cemetery Corporation, and \$2,250.00 for Town cemeteries.**



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

**The amended main motion carried by a majority vote.**

**A motion was made and seconded to combine Articles 31 through 40 for simultaneous consideration.**

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a two-thirds majority vote to amend the main motion to combine Articles 31 through 38 for simultaneous consideration.**

**A motion was made and seconded to accept the Budget Committee's recommendation.**

**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to raise \$0.00 from taxes.**

**The motion failed to carry.**

**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to be 50% of the Budget Committee recommendation.**

**The motion failed to carry.**

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

**The main motion to accept the Budget Committee's recommendations on Articles 31 through 38 carried by a majority vote.**

**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.*

*Budget Committee recommends same*

**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.*

*Budget Committee recommends same*

**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.*

*Budget Committee recommends same*

- 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.  
Budget Committee recommends same*
- 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.  
Budget Committee recommends same*
- 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.  
Budget Committee recommends same*
- 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.  
Budget Committee recommends same*
- 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.  
Budget Committee recommends same*
- 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 \$1,500.00.  
Budget Committee recommends same
- A motion was made and seconded to accept the Budget Committee's recommendation to raise from taxes \$1,500.00.**
- A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to raise from taxes \$3,000.00. The motion to amend carried by a majority vote.**
- A motion was made, seconded and carried by a two-thirds majority vote to cease debate.**
- The amended main motion carried by a majority vote.**
- Article 40.** 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.  
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 \$150.00.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 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 19, 2011.

Gwyn Benson Dixon  
Town Clerk