

Whitefield, Maine
Annual Town Meeting
March 20, 2004

The Whitefield Town Meeting was held at the Whitefield School on March 20, 2004, to vote on Articles for the July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2005, 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 56 people present at 10:00 a.m.; approximately 63 at 10:30 a.m.

Article 2. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year: 330 votes were cast with 198 write-in votes for various candidates.

Office	Candidate	Vote
Selectman (3-year term)	Hardman, Jr., David V.	14
Selectman (3-year term)	Hart, Kathy H.	68
Selectman (3-year term)	Mathews, Bruce M.	181*
Selectman (3-year term)	Russell, Lynnette R.	61
School Committee (3-year term)	Cifrino, Carole	75*
School Committee (3-year term)	Sheaffer, Lester	45*
Road Commissioner (1-year term)	Boynton, David A.	289 *
Planning Board (2-year term)	Marple, Anthony F.	250 *
Planning Board (2-year term)	McKeen, Susan B.	260*

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 \$102,821.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$102,821.00.

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 \$11,000.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$11,000.00.

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 \$2,352.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$2,352.00.

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 \$68,768.00, and to appropriate from the State Block Grant \$59,232.00. Total of \$128,000.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to appropriate from excise taxes \$68,768.00, and to appropriate from the State Block Grant \$59,232.00. Total of \$128,000.00.

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 \$181,232.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to appropriate from excise taxes \$181,232.00.

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 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 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 \$40,626.00.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$40,626.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by majority vote to amend the main motion to increase the amount to be raised from taxes in Article 13 to \$43,120.00 with the increase of \$2,500.00 being applied to planting trees around the Whitefield Veterans' Memorial located behind the Town Office.

The main motion, as amended, carried by a majority vote.

Article 14. To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for legal fees for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes

\$3,500.00.

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

Article 15. 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 \$12,950.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$12,950.00.

Article 16. 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 17. 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 18. 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 raise from taxes \$5,000.00.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$5,000.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to amend the article to appropriate from surplus \$5,000.00 for replacing personal protective gear for current Fire Department members.

The main motion, as amended, carried by a majority vote.

Article 19. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for air pack replacement for Firefighters. 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 20. 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 21. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Whitefield First Responders. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$9,735.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$9,735.00.

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the purchase of a fire truck at a cost not to exceed \$180,000.00 and authorize the Board of Selectmen to borrow not more than \$180,000.00 for that purpose, and appropriate the first payment of \$21,225.00 to be paid in the 2004-2005 fiscal year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$21,225.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the purchase of a fire truck at a cost not to exceed \$180,000.00, authorize the Board of Selectmen to borrow not more than \$180,000.00 for that purpose, raise from taxes \$21,225.00, and appropriate same for the first payment of \$21,225.00 to be paid in the 2004-2005 fiscal year.

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 if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to form a committee for the purpose of conducting a feasibility study to purchase land adjacent to the Town Office. The proposal would be voted on at the 2005 Whitefield Annual Town Meeting.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the Selectmen to form a committee for the purpose of conducting a feasibility study to purchase land adjacent to the Town Office.

Article 27. 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 28. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Bicentennial in the year 2009. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$750.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$750.00.

Article 29. To see if the Town will allow a feasibility study to be completed by the Whitefield Lions Club for developing a multi community recreation area on the land bequeathed to the Town by Harold Olsen.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the Selectmen to allow a feasibility study to be completed by the Whitefield Lions Club for developing a multi community recreation area on the land bequeathed to the Town by Harold Olsen.

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to carry forward the balance in the Comprehensive Plan account at June 30, 2004, to the fiscal 2005 year.

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

Comprehensive Plan account at June 30, 2004, to the fiscal 2005 year.

There were approximately 73 in attendance at the time the School Committee articles were acted upon. A motion was made, seconded and carried by a two-thirds majority vote to allow Francis N. Boynton, Superintendent, to address the Town Meeting. The School Committee presented an overview of the school budget.

Article 31.

To see if the Town of Whitefield will accept a donation (anonymous donor) in the sum of \$21,000.00 for the purposes of operating a full time Physical Education position. School Committee (5-0) recommends \$21,000.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to accept a donation (anonymous donor) in the sum of \$21,000.00 for the purpose of operating a full time Physical Education position.

Article 32.

To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will authorize the School Committee to expend for Elementary Programs. School Committee recommends \$993,028.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to expend \$993,028.00 for Elementary Programs.

Article 33.

To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will authorize the School Committee to expend for Secondary Programs. School Committee recommends \$1,041,072.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to expend \$1,041,072.00 for Secondary Programs.

Article 34.

To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will authorize the School Committee to expend for Special Education Programs. School Committee recommends \$743,268.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to expend \$743,268.00 for Special Education Programs.

Article 35.

To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will authorize the School Committee to expend for Food Service Programs. School Committee recommends \$102,164.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to expend \$102,164.00 for Food Service Programs.

Article 36. 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 \$782,598.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to expend \$782,598.00 for Undistributed Expenditures.

Article 37. To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will appropriate from the foundation allocation for school purposes (Recommended \$2,813,109.23) and to see what sum the Town of Whitefield will raise as the local share of the foundation allocation. School Committee recommends \$968,822.56.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to appropriate \$2,813,109.23 from the foundation allocation and to raise \$968,822.56 as the local share of the foundation allocation.

Article 38. To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will appropriate from the debt service allocation (Recommended \$54,257.26) and to see what sum the Town of Whitefield will raise as the local share of the debt service allocation. School Committee recommends \$24,057.67.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to appropriate \$54,257.26 from the debt service allocation and to raise \$24,057.67 as the local share of the debt service allocation.

Article 39. 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 \$476,109.51.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to raise \$476,109.51 in additional local funds under 20-A MRSA Section 15614.

Article 40. To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will authorize the School Committee to expend for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005, from the foundation allocation, debt service allocation, unexpended balances, local appropriations, state subsidy, and other receipts in support of schools. School Committee recommends \$3,662,130.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to expend \$3,662,130.00 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004 and ending June 30, 2005.

Article 41. To see what sum the Town of Whitefield will appropriate for Adult Education (Recommended \$15,745.58) and to see what sum the Town of Whitefield will raise as the local share (Recommended \$10,448.00) with authorization to expend said appropriated sums and any additional incidental, or miscellaneous receipts and grants. School Committee recommends \$10,448.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a two-thirds majority vote to allow Debra Randall to address the Town Meeting.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the School Committee recommendation to appropriate \$15,745.58 for Adult Education and to raise \$10,448.00 as the local share.

Article 42. 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 43. 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 44. To see if the Town of Whitefield will vote to accept and expend additional funds received from the State for the purpose of using 50% to be applied towards Local Additional and 50% towards Capital Improvement. School Committee recommends this article.

Note: This budget does not include the estimated amount of \$213,669.82 in employer share of teacher retirement cost that is paid directly by the State.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the School Committee recommendation.

A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to read: *To see if the Town of Whitefield will vote to accept and expend additional funds received from the State for the purpose of using 100% to be applied towards Local Additional and 0% towards Capital Improvement. The motion failed to carry by a vote of 15 in favor and 33 opposed.*

The main motion carried by a vote of 34 in favor and 6 opposed.

Article 45. 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 46. 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.

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 47. 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, 2004, and April 30, 2005, and an interest rate of 6.50 percent.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the Selectmen to set November 30, 2004, and April 30, 2005, as dates when the taxes shall be due and payable and an interest rate of 6.50 percent to be charged on unpaid taxes after said dates.

Article 48. 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 49. 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 50. 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 51. 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 52. 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 \$2,800.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$2,800.00.

Article 53. 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 \$3,795.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$3,795.00.

Article 54. 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, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$3,500.00.

Article 55. 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 56. 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. 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.

Article 57. 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 \$3,137.00.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to adopt the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$3,137.00.

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 \$1,000.00.

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

Article 59. To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for charitable contributions for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$8,306.00.

American Red Cross	\$ 200.00
Catholic Charities	50.00
Coastal Economic Development	1,000.00
Coastal Trans	200.00
Healthy Kids	200.00
Hospice of Kennebec County	1,000.00
Kennebec Valley Mental Health	1,958.00
Kno-Wal-Lin	1,810.00
New Hope for Women	580.00
Senior Spectrum	958.00
Whitefield Food Bank	200.00

Young at Heart Senior Citizens	150.00
Total	\$8,306.00

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the Selectmen's recommendation.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to amend the main motion to increase the amount to be raised from taxes in Article 59 to \$8,442.50 with the increase of \$136.50 being applied to the Hospice of Kennebec Valley line item.

The main motion, as amended, carried by a majority vote.

A motion was made and seconded by voters who had voted on the prevailing side of the previous vote, to reconsider the vote on the Article 59 main motion, as amended. The motion to reconsider the vote on the Article 59 main motion, as amended, carried by a vote of 18 in favor and 0 opposed.

A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion, as amended, to increase the amount to be raised from taxes in Article 59 to \$8,492.50, with the increase of \$50.00 being applied to add a line item for the Boy Scouts.

The maker of this motion withdrew it, without objection by its second.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to amend the main motion, as amended, to increase the amount to be raised from taxes in Article 59 to \$8,542.50, with the increase of \$100.00 being applied to add a line item of \$50.00 for the Boy Scouts, and a line item of \$50.00 for the Girl Scouts.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried by a majority vote to amend the main motion, as amended, to specify "Troop 220 Boy Scouts of America", and "Troop 339 Girl Scouts of America", on the respective line items added for these organizations.

The main motion, as amended, carried by a majority vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

Results of Referenda Questions:

Shall an Ordinance entitled "Building Permit Ordinance" be enacted?

Yes 148

No 167

Shall an Ordinance entitled "Wireless Communications Facilities Ordinance" be enacted?

Yes 171

No 142

The preceding is a true and accurate account of the actions by the Town of Whitefield at the Annual Town Meeting March 20, 2004.

Attest: _____
Gwyn Benson Dixon
Town Clerk