

**Whitefield, Maine  
Annual Town Meeting  
March 20, 2010**

The Whitefield Town Meeting was held at the Whitefield School on March 20, 2010, to vote on Articles for the July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2011, 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)	Ober, Franklin A.	140*
Selectman (3-year term)	Miller, Kurt E.	139
Road Commissioner (1-year term)	Boynton, David A.	241*
School Committee (Expires 06/30/13)	Holm, Hilary (Write-In)	52*
Planning Board (2-year term)	Mitchell, Christi A.	233*
Planning Board (2-year term)	Torbert, James R.	215*

Candidates marked with an asterisk were elected: 286 ballots were cast with 91 write-in votes for various offices.

**Results of Referenda Questions:**

Shall an Ordinance entitled "Cemetery Ordinance" be enacted?

**Yes    181    No    92**

Shall the Town of Whitefield vote to create a Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department; accept the proposed Ordinance entitled "Whitefield Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department Ordinance"; and authorize the Selectmen to accept ownership of the assets of the volunteer fire departments and/or lease them under such terms as the Selectmen consider to be in the best interests of the Town?

**Yes    159    No    126**

The moderator called the open portion of Town Meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. There were 118 voters present at 2:00 p.m. The moderator announced the results of the Candidates and Referendum Election. At 2:30 p.m., there were approximately 134 voters present.

**Article 3.** 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 Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$131,641.00 and to appropriate from the Animal Control revenue account \$4,000.00. Total of \$135,641.00.**

**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to raise from taxes \$127,582.00 and to appropriate from the Animal Control revenue account \$4,000.00.**

**The amendment 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 Selectmen's recommendation carried by a majority vote of 62 in favor and 11 opposed.**

**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 \$16,751.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$16,751.00.**

**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 \$2,554.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$2,554.00.**

**Article 7.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the site development and construction of a new fire and rescue building on property acquired in 2005 in accordance with plans developed by the Town Building Committee at a cost not to exceed \$548,144.00 and authorize the Board of Selectmen to borrow not more than \$548,144.00 for that purpose and appropriate the first payment of \$31,510.00 to be paid in the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

09/10 budget \$0.00

Selectmen recommend to raise and appropriate \$31,510.00.

**A motion was made and seconded to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise and appropriate \$31,510.00.**

**A motion was made, seconded, and carried by a two-thirds majority vote to allow members of the Whitefield Fire Department that are non-residents to speak to this article.**

<p>The Town Building Committee presented its assessment of the need for a new central fire station and the architecture and drawings for the site layout of the Townhouse Road property and the design of the facility. Tim Pellerin, North Whitefield Volunteer Fire Department Chief, gave a PowerPoint presentation.</p>
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**A motion was made and seconded to vote by written ballot on Article 7.**

**The motion failed to carry.**

**A motion was made and seconded to table the article and vote by referendum ballot at the same time we vote on the school budget.**

**The motion failed to carry by a vote of 30 in favor and 95 opposed.**

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

**The main motion to accept the Selectmen's recommendation carried by a vote of 83 in favor and 43 opposed.**

**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 \$29,624.00 and to appropriate from the State Block Grant \$59,376.00. Total of \$89,000.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to appropriate from excise taxes \$29,624.00 and to appropriate from the State Block Grant \$59,376.00. Total of \$89,000.00.**

**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, 2010, to the 2011 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 \$219,250.00, with \$1,000.00 for salt shed maintenance.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to appropriate from excise taxes \$219,250.00, 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 \$50,264.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$50,264.00.**

**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.

**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 \$17,935.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$17,935.00.**

**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, 2010, to the 2011 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, 2010, to the 2011 fiscal year.**

**Article 15.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for fire protection and rescue services for the ensuing year.  
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$92,629.00, with \$43,200.00 to be divided equally among the three volunteer fire departments in Kings Mills, North Whitefield and Coopers Mills, \$13,000.00 to Whitefield Rescue, and the remainder for purchase and replacement of Fire Fighting Equipment (\$9,000.00), Communications (\$3,150.00), Physicals (\$1,350.00), Hepatitis B Vaccine (\$675.00), Fire Education (\$225.00), Emergency Management Agency (\$900.00), Forest Fires (\$450.00), and Fire Truck payment (\$20,679.00) for the ensuing year.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$92,629.00.**

**Article 16.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from surplus in the current year \$20,000.00 as a match for the Whitefield Fire Truck Grant.  
Total of \$20,000.00.

**A motion was made and seconded to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise and appropriate from surplus in the current year \$20,000.00.**

**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to appropriate from surplus in the current year \$9,000.00.**

**The motion failed to carry.**

**The main motion to accept the Selectmen's recommendation carried.**

**Article 17.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for EMS and Fire Fighter stipends for the ensuing year.  
Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$10,000.00.

**A motion was made and seconded to accept the Selectmen's recommendation to raise from taxes \$10,000.00.**

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

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

**Article 18.** 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 19.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to carry forward \$1,500.00 from the Bicentennial account balance at June 30, 2010, to the 2011 fiscal year to purchase a community sign located at the Whitefield School.  
Selectmen recommend this article.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to authorize the Selectmen to carry forward \$1,500.00 from the Bicentennial account balance.**

**Article 20.** 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, 2010, to the 2011 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 21.** 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 22.** 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 FY2011 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.**

**Article 23.** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$150,000.00 from surplus and an additional \$51,126.00 from excise tax 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 \$150,000.00 from surplus and an additional \$51,126.00 from excise tax to reduce the amount of money needed to be raised in taxes.**

**Article 24.** 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 MRS.A Section 36 (Prepayment of Taxes).  
Selectmen recommend November 30, 2010, and April 30, 2011, 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, 2010, and April 30, 2011, 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 25.** 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 26.** 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 27.** 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.**

**Article 28.** 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.**

**Article 29.** 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.**

**Article 30.** 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.**

**A motion was made and seconded to combine Articles 31 through 43 and take up out of order.**

**The motion failed to carry.**

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

**Article 31.** 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 \$1,150.00.



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

**Article 32.** 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 appropriate \$4,000.00 from the Cemetery Trust Funds, with \$1,000.00 for the decoration of soldiers' graves and \$3,000.00 for the Whitefield Cemetery Corporation. Budget Committee recommends same.

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

**A motion was made and seconded to combine Articles 33 through 41 plus Article 43 and take up after Articles 31 and 32.**

**The motion failed to carry.**

**Article 33.** 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 \$0.00.

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

**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to raise from taxes \$100.00.**

**Following discussion, the motion to amend carried by a majority vote.**

**Article 34.** 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 \$0.00.

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

<p>A motion was made, seconded and carried by a two-thirds majority vote to allow Jessica Tyson from Midcoast Maine Community Action (formerly Coastal Economic Development) to address the Town Meeting.</p>
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**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to raise from taxes \$500.00.**

**Following discussion, the motion to amend carried by a majority vote.**

**Article 35.** 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 \$0.00.

**A motion was made, seconded and carried by a majority vote to raise from taxes \$100.00.**

**Article 36** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for Healthy Kids for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$0.00.

**A motion was made and seconded to raise from taxes \$100.00.**

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

**Following discussion, the motion to amend carried by a majority vote.**

**Article 37.** To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for HealthReach for the ensuing year. Selectmen recommend to raise from taxes \$0.00.

**A motion was made and seconded to raise from taxes \$550.00.**

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

**The amendment failed to carry.**

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

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

**Article 38.** 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 \$0.00.

**A motion was made and seconded to raise from taxes \$1,000.00.**

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

**The amendment failed to carry.**

**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to raise from taxes \$1,958.00 (Chuck Acker withdrew his motion to amend).**

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

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

**Article 39.** 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 \$0.00.

**A motion was made and seconded to raise from taxes \$900.00.**

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

**The motion carried by a majority vote**

**Article 40.** 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 \$0.00.

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

**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to raise from taxes \$290.00.**

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

**Following discussion, the motion to amend carried by a majority vote.**

**Article 41.** 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 \$0.00.

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

**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to raise from taxes \$450.00.**

**Following discussion, the motion to amend carried by a majority vote.**

**Article 42.** 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 \$1,000.00.

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

**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to raise from taxes \$4,015.00.**

**The amendment failed to carry by a vote of 9 in favor and 27 opposed.**

**A motion was made and seconded to amend the main motion to raise from taxes \$3,000.00.**

**Following discussion, the motion to amend carried by a vote of 27 in favor and 5 opposed.**

**Article 43.** 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 \$0.00.

**A motion was made and seconded to raise from taxes \$150.00.**

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

**The amendment failed to carry.**

**The main motion carried by a majority vote of 24 in favor and 9 opposed.**

**Article 44.** To see if the Town will vote to amend the barking dog ordinance adopted at the March 16, 1996 Annual Town Meeting to read as follows:

No person or owners having custody of any dog kept within the legal limits of the Town of Whitefield shall allow such dog to unnecessarily annoy or disturb any person by continued or repeated barking or other loud or unusual noises for more than a continuous period of twenty (20) minutes.

Upon written complaint by the person disturbed, signed and sworn to, any constable of the Town of Whitefield or duly qualified law enforcement official may investigate and may give written notice to the owner/keeper of such dog that such annoyance or disturbance must cease. The warning shall be made part of the complaint.

Thereafter, upon continuance of such annoyance or disturbance, such owner shall be guilty of a civil violation and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of \$25.00 for the first offense. Each additional conviction after the first conviction shall be punished by a fine of \$50.00. All fines so assessed shall be recovered for the use of the Town of Whitefield.

**A motion was made and seconded to adopt the change to the Barking Dog Ordinance that was adopted at the March 16, 1996, Annual Town Meeting.**

**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 adopt the Barking Dog Ordinance as printed in the Warrant.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 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 20, 2010.

Gwyn Benson Dixon  
Town Clerk