



Town Meeting Minutes ~ ~ Town of Whitefield FY 2022-2023

GREETINGS,

*In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the residents of the Town of Whitefield, Maine in Lincoln County, qualified to vote on Town affairs, to assemble at the **Whitefield Central Fire Station**, located at 24 Townhouse Road in said Town of Whitefield on Friday the **Eighteenth day of March, 2022, at 3:45 PM**, then and there to act upon Article 1 and by secret ballot on Article 2, the polling hours therefor to be from **4:00 PM in the afternoon until 8:00 PM in the evening**:*

Pursuant to Title 21-A, Section 759(7), absentee ballots will be processed at the polls at the following times of 6:00 PM and 8:00 PM.

*And to notify and warn said voters to assemble for the business meeting at the **Whitefield Elementary School** located at 164 Grand Army Road in said Town of Whitefield on Saturday the **Nineteenth day of March 2022 at 10:00 AM**, then and there to act on Articles 3 through 51 as set out below, to wit:*

Friday March 18, 2022

Yolanda Violette, Town Clerk, opened the Town Meeting at 3:47 pm, she welcomed everyone who was present. She explained we are voting on Article #1 and Article #2 today and will continue tomorrow at 10 am with the business part of the meeting at the Whitefield Elementary School.

Article 1: To elect a **Moderator** by written ballot to preside at said meeting.

Jeffrey Frankel was nominated to serve as Moderator, it was moved and seconded,

With No discussion,

Then went to vote by paper ballot. 8-0 voted for Jeffrey Frankel.

***Article 1: The Town voted to elect Jeffrey Frankel as Moderator to preside at said meeting.**

The town clerk, Yolanda Violette, administered the Oath of office to Mr. Jeffrey Frankel. Jeffrey then deputized Tina Laskey to oversee the election of Municipal Officials. The Oath was taken by Tina Laskey as Deputy Moderator. Yolanda also administered Oaths to the Election Clerks and the Warden. Yolanda Violette, declared the Polls OPEN at 4:00 pm for Article #2.

Article 2: To elect by secret ballot municipal officials namely, two Select Board Members/Assessors/Overseers of the Poor; one RSU 12 School Board Member and one Planning Board Member all for three-year terms.

The warden, Tina Laskey, closed the polls at 8:00 pm. Deputy Moderator, Tina Laskey, resigned. Results will be read at the beginning at the business part of the Town Meeting on Saturday at 10 am.

Saturday March 19, 2022

The Registrar was in session during Town Meeting to register anyone eligible to vote in Town matters.

Yolanda opened the Town Meeting at 10:03 am, she welcomed all those back for the business part of the annual town meeting to vote on Articles #3 - #51. We had voted for our Moderator at the 3:47 pm on Friday March 18th, Jeffrey Frankel had been elected by those present, 8-0.

Yolanda then read the results of the Article #2, Election by secret ballot of the Municipal Officials

Select Board – 3 year terms:

Bolduc, Seth A – 81
Sanborn, Keith – 85

Planning Board – 3 year term:

Angell, Glenn A – 91

RSU #12 School Board – 3 year term:

Goetzman, Kathleen A – 75

Yolanda thanked everyone for coming out to vote at the polls and absentee! 96 Voters total.

Yolanda took a moment to introduce, the new Select Board Member, Seth Bolduc. As well as the office staff Laurie Mullens, Tina Laskey and the new office clerk, Casey Hayden.

Before getting on to business the 2022 Spirit of America Award was announced, it was awarded to Phil Russell, who unfortunately was unable to attend today. Keith Sanborn will deliver the award to him.

The floor was then turned over to our moderator, Jeffrey Frankel.

Before the first order of business, he asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Moderator then asked for a vote by the voters to allow Town Clerk Yolanda Violette, a non-resident, permission to speak if needed throughout the meeting.

There was motion to allow and was seconded. Went to vote, motion passed as presented.

Jeffrey went over the procedures thoroughly that we would be following throughout the meeting. Then proceeded on to Article #3.

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to allow the **unexpended balances of FY 21-22 Cooper Road Grinding \$6,684.38 and Paving \$32,936.31** to be carried over into the FY 22-23 for the purpose of **completing the Leonard’s Bridge Culvert Project.**

Note: This is needed if the Leonard’s Bridge project is not completed and expended out by FYE 6.30.2022

The article was moved as written and seconded,

With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 3:** The Town voted to allow the **unexpended balances of FY 21-22 Cooper Road Grinding \$6,684.38 and Paving \$32,936.31** to be carried over into the FY 22-23 for the purpose of **completing the Leonard’s Bridge Culvert Project.**

Article 4: 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 or Treasurer to accept the prepayment of taxes** not yet committed, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A §506, amount not to exceed previous year’s taxes. Interest on any prepayments will be zero percent.
21/22 budget year interest rate 4%.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF: Taxes due Tuesday, November 29, 2022 and Friday, April 28, 2023 and a 4% interest rate for unpaid taxes.

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendations and seconded,
With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 4:** The **Town voted to the fixed dates of Tuesday November 29, 2022 and Friday April 28, 2023 when taxes shall be due and payable**, and The **Town voted on the fixed annual interest rate of 4%** to be charged on unpaid taxes after said dates, and to allow the **Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept the prepayment of taxes** not yet committed, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A §506, amount not to exceed previous year’s taxes. Interest on any prepayments will be zero percent.

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from surplus funds to **pay for tax abatements and any interest due thereon.**

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS APPROVAL

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 5:** The Town voted to appropriate from surplus funds to **pay for tax abatements and any interest due thereon.**

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the **Town Tax Collector to enter into a standard agreement with taxpayers establishing a “tax club” payment** plan for property taxes, whereby:

- the taxpayer agrees to pay specified monthly payments to the Town based on his or her estimated and actual tax obligation for the current year property taxes;
- the Town agrees not to charge interest on timely payments made pursuant to the tax club agreement;

- the Town authorizes the Town Tax Collector to accept tax club payments for current taxes which may be due prior to the commitment of those taxes;
- the agreement is automatically terminated if a scheduled payment is late, and the taxpayer then becomes subject to the same due dates and interest dates and rates as other taxpayers who are not participating in a tax club;
- only taxpayers who do not have any outstanding tax obligations for prior tax years are eligible to participate in the tax club program;
- taxpayers wishing to participate in a tax club for a particular property tax year shall enter into an agreement with the town by a publicly advertised deadline determined by the Town Tax Collector.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS APPROVAL

 The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
 With No discussion,
 Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 6:** The Town voted to authorize the **Town Tax Collector to enter into a standard agreement with taxpayers establishing a “tax club” payment** plan for property taxes as stated above.

Article 7: To see if the town will authorize the **Treasurer, after Select Board Approval, to file a waiver of automatic foreclosure of a tax lien** at the Registry of Deeds, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A §944 on real estate that may be contrary to the Town’s best interest.

 The article was moved as written and seconded,
 With No discussion,
 Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 7:** The town voted to authorize the **Treasurer, after Select Board Approval, to file a waiver of automatic foreclosure of a tax lien** at the Registry of Deeds, pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A §944 on real estate that may be contrary to the Town’s best interest.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the **Select Board to enter into multi-year contracts** to negotiate optimal value for the procurement of certain necessary services to the Town.

 The article was moved as written and seconded,
 With No discussion
 Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 8:** The Town voted to authorize the **Select Board to enter into multi-year contracts** to negotiate optimal value for the procurement of certain necessary services to the Town.

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the **Select Board on behalf of the Town 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 quitclaim deeds for the same; with the exception that the Municipal Officers shall use the special sale process required by law, Title 36 M.R.S. § 943-C for a qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s).

The article was moved as written and seconded,

With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 9:** The Town voted to authorize the **Select Board on behalf of the Town 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 quitclaim deeds for the same; with the exception that the Municipal Officers shall use the special sale process required by law, Title 36 M.R.S. § 943-C for a qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s).

Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the **Select Board to accept gifts of money or personal property to the Town** and to appropriate and expend such gifts for such public purposes as the Select Board deems to be in the best interest of the Town.

The article was moved as written and seconded,

With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 10:** The Town voted to authorize the **Select Board to accept gifts of money or personal property to the Town** and to appropriate and expend such gifts for such public purposes as the Select Board deems to be in the best interest of the Town.

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the **Select Board to apply for and accept state and federal grants and grants from nonprofit organizations** on behalf of the Town for municipal purposes including, when necessary, the authority to sign the grant contract and accept the conditions that accompany grant funds, and to appropriate and expend grant funds for the authorized purposes.

The article was moved as written and seconded,

With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 11:** The Town voted to authorize the **Select Board to apply for and accept state and federal grants and grants from nonprofit organizations** on behalf of the Town for municipal purposes including, when necessary,

the authority to sign the grant contract and accept the conditions that accompany grant funds, and to appropriate and expend grant funds for the authorized purposes.

Article 12: To see if the Town will authorize the **Select Board to dispose of Town owned property valued up to \$1,000**. Property valued over \$1,000 will be sold through auction or sealed-bid process.

The article was moved as written and seconded,

With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 12:** The Town voted to authorize the **Select Board to dispose of Town owned property valued up to \$1,000**. Property valued over \$1,000 will be sold through auction or sealed-bid process.

Article 13: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to provide **Compensation to the Select Board** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$18,500

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$18,500 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$18,500 (9-0)

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,

With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 13:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$18,500** to provide **Compensation to the Select Board** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 14: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the purpose of providing **Compensation and Employee benefits for Town Employees** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$164,498

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$218,714 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$218,714 (9-0)

Note: This includes Admin Salaries, Insurances, Social Security for all departments (including part time employees), Income Protection, Retirement, Accrued Wage Expense, Travel, and Training.

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,

With No discussion, just one question,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 14:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$218,714** for the purpose of providing **Compensation and Employee benefits for Town Employees** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 15: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for general expenses associated with the **Operation of Town Government** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$110,976

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$114,032 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$114,032 (9-0)

Note: Includes MMA dues, registry, advertising, office supplies, postage, telephone, utilities, heat, property insurance, workers compensation insurance, legal services, audit fees, assessing fees, computer software (TRIO), maintenance, tax bills, town reports, website, other contracted services, office equipment, land taxes, preservation of records, etc.

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With No discussion, just a question.

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 15:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$114,032** for general expenses associated with the **Operation of Town Government** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 16: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Elections** expenses during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$3,600

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$3,900 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$3,900 (9-0)

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 16:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$3,900** for **Elections** expenses during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 17: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Planning Board** expenses and **Code Enforcement Officer** expenses during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$11,330

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$14,556 (3-2)
BUDGET COMMITTEE DOES NOT RECOMMEND: \$14,556 (3-6)

Note: The increase includes a stipend of \$500 for each Planning Board Member

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 17:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$14,556** for **Planning Board** expenses and **Code Enforcement Officer** expenses during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 18: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Facilities Maintenance** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$53,011

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$35,851 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$35,851 (9-0)

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With No discussion,
Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 18:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$35,851** for **Facilities Maintenance** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 19: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Operation of the Whitefield Fire Department** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$97,563

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$114,887 (4-1)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$114,887 (9-0)

Note: This includes the Emergency Management Operations \$500 (Year #5) that is part of Article #31 non-lapsing approval.

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With No discussion,
Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 19:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$114,887** for the **Operation of the Whitefield Fire Department** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 20: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Animal Control Contract** during the ensuing fiscal year during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$8,000

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$8,000 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$8,000 (9-0)

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With No discussion,
Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 20:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$8,000** for the **Animal Control Contract** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 21: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Maintenance and Repairs of Town Roads** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$409,459

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$467,034 (4-1)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$467,034 (9-0)

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With No discussion,
Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 21:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$467,034** for **Maintenance and Repairs of Town Roads** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 22: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Winter Maintenance of Town Roads** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$419,200

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$433,600 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$433,600 (9-0)

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With No discussion,
Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 22:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$433,600** for **Winter Maintenance of Town Roads** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 23: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **General Assistance Program** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$2,000

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$1,500 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$1,500 (9-0)

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With No discussion, just a question,
Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 23:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$1,500** for the **General Assistance Program** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 24: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Soldiers' Graves and Whitefield Cemetery** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$4,400

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$4,700 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$4,700 (9-0)

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 24:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$4,700** for **Soldiers' Graves and Whitefield Cemetery** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 25: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate in support of the following outside services: **Lincoln County Humane Society, \$3,800; Hatch Hill, \$23,000** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$26,335

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$26,800 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$26,800 (9-0)

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With little discussion, a couple questions,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 25:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$26,800** in support of the following outside services: **Lincoln County Humane Society, \$3,800; Hatch Hill, \$23,000** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 26: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Salaries, Utilities and Maintenance for the Recycling Center** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$3,497

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$4,000 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$4,000 (9-0)

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 26:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$4,000** for **Salaries, Utilities and Maintenance for the Recycling Center** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 27: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Fire Department Capital Outlay** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$9,000

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$9,000 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$9,000 (9-0)

Note: This is the 5th Year

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With little discussion, a few questions,
Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 27:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$9,000** for the **Fire Department Capital Outlay** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 28: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for a **Tax Assessment Re-Evaluation** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$0

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$50,700 (4-1)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$50,700 (9-0)

Note: This is the 1st of a 2 Year appropriation

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With little discussion, a couple questions,
Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 28:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$50,700** for a **Tax Assessment Re-Evaluation** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 29: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Replacement of Joy's Pond Culvert on South Hunts Meadow Road** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$0

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$30,000 (4-1)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$30,000 (9-0)

Note: This is the 1st of a 2 Year appropriation

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With little discussion, a few questions,
Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 29:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$30,000** for the **Replacement of Joy's Pond Culvert on South Hunts Meadow Road** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 30: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Repair and Paving of the Sand/Salt Shed Parking Lot** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$0

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$70,000 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$70,000 (9-0)

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With No discussion,
Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 30:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$70,000** for the **Repair and Paving of the Sand/Salt Shed Parking Lot** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 31: To see if the Town will vote to lapse all balances into undesignated Fund Balance except those which must be carried forward by statute and the balances of the following accounts: **Emergency Management Operations, Fire Department Capital, Tax Assessment Re-Evaluation, and Replacement of Joy's Pond Culvert on S Hunts Meadow Road** these accounts will not lapse and to allow the Select Board to expend from them in future years for their designated purposes.

The article was moved as written and seconded,
With No discussion,
Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 31:** The Town voted to lapse all balances into undesignated Fund Balance except those which must be carried forward by statute and the balances of the following accounts: **Emergency Management Operations, Fire Department Capital, Tax Assessment Re-Evaluation, and Replacement of Joy's Pond Culvert on S Hunts Meadow Road** these accounts will not lapse and to allow the Select Board to expend from them in future years for their designated purposes.

Article 32: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for a **Tax Anticipation Note (TAN)** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$600

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$600 (5-0)
BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$600 (9-0)

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With No discussion,
Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 32:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$600** for a **Tax Anticipation Note (TAN)** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 33: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to support the **Debt Service incurred for the Fire Department and Fire Truck** during the ensuing fiscal year.
21/22 Budget was \$57,875

Fire Truck Principal \$17,485
 Fire Truck Interest \$ 4,462
 Fire Station Principal \$18,272
 Fire Station Interest \$16,950
 \$57,169

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$57,169 (5-0)
 BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS SAME: \$57,169 (9-0)

 The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
 With No discussion,
 Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 33:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$57,169** to support the **Debt Service incurred for the Fire Department and Fire Truck** during the ensuing fiscal year.

 The Moderator asked the voters how they wanted to vote on this next Article (#34),
 Vote it (one lump sum) or Vote the Organizations separately?

There was a motion to Vote it (one lump sum), and seconded
 With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passed to Vote as one.

Article 34: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for **Donations to the following Organizations** during the ensuing year:

	Previous Budget FY 21-22	Organization Requested FY 22-23	Select Board FY 22-23	Budget Comm FY 22-23	Select Board Recomnd	Budget Comm Recomnd
American Red Cross	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	4-1	9-0
Maine General Hospice	\$ 1,137	\$ 1,137	\$1,137	\$ 1,137	4-1	9-0
Kenn. Behavioral Health	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$1,000	\$ 1,000	4-1	9-0
*New Hope Midcoast	\$ 580	\$ 580	\$ 580	\$ 580	4-1	9-0
Spectrum Generations	\$ 810	\$ 990	\$ 990	\$ 990	4-1	9-0
Young at Heart	\$ 0	\$ 150	\$ 150	\$ 150	4-1	9-0
Children Center	\$ 1,127	\$ 1,128	\$ 1,128	\$ 1,128	4-1	5-4
Healthy Kids	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	4-1	9-0
Waldo County Com Act	\$ 0	\$ 173	\$ 173	\$ 173	4-1	9-0
Lifelight	\$ 0	\$ 575	\$ 0	\$ 0	4-1	9-0
Whitefield Library	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	4-1	9-0
Whitefield Athletic Assoc.	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 5,000</u>	<u>\$ 500</u>	<u>\$ 500</u>	1-4	4-5
Totals	\$7,404	\$13,983	\$8,408	\$8,408		

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$8,408 (see above for Recommendation #'s)
 BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: \$8,408 (see above for Recommendation #'s)

Note: *Formally known as New Hope for Women, effective December 2021

 The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
 With little discussion, just a few questions,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 34:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$8,408** for **Donations to the above Organizations** during the ensuing year, amounts written in the list as recommended by the Select Board.

Article 35: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the **Whitefield Food Bank** during the ensuing year.

21/22 Budget was \$3,000 Taxes + \$3,000 from William Turner Charity Trust

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$3,000 (5-0)

BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS: \$3,000 (9-0)

Note: \$1,500 will come from William Turner Charity (see revenue sources Article #41)

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 35:** The Town voted to raise and appropriate **\$3,000** for the **Whitefield Food Bank** during the ensuing year.

Article 36: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate all funds received by the Town from the **State of Maine for snowmobile registrations to the Snowmobile Club** for the purpose of maintaining snowmobile trails and to authorize the municipal officers to enter into an agreement with the Club, under such terms and conditions as the municipal officers may deem advisable, for that purpose. These funds are to be used for the maintenance of snowmobile trails within the Town.

The article was moved as written and seconded,

With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 36:** The Town voted to appropriate all funds received by the Town from the **State of Maine for snowmobile registrations to the Snowmobile Club** for the purpose of maintaining snowmobile trails and to authorize the municipal officers to enter into an agreement with the Club, under such terms and conditions as the municipal officers may deem advisable, for that purpose. These funds are to be used for the maintenance of snowmobile trails within the Town.

Article 37: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the **Select Board to move funds in the municipal budget from categories with balances to those with deficits** during the ensuing fiscal year.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS APPROVAL

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,

With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 37:** The Town voted to authorize the **Select Board to move funds in the municipal budget from categories with balances to those with deficits** during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 38: To see if the Town will vote to move previous revenue received from **Cable Franchise Fees in 2021** in the amount of **\$5762.52**, that was voted as a carry forward fund for future use for local broadband, to the Unassigned Fund balance.

Note: ARPA Funds were used for the expansion of broadband in Whitefield, therefore the Cable Franchise Fees are not needed for this project.

The article was moved as written and seconded,

With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 38:** The Town voted to move previous revenue received from **Cable Franchise Fees in 2021** in the amount of **\$5762.52**, that was voted as a carry forward fund for future use for local broadband, to the Unassigned Fund balance.

Article 39: To see if the Town will vote to move **Townhouse Maintenance Funds** in the amount of **\$2,887** to the **Facilities Fund** carry forward balance to be expended on future Townhouse Repairs.

Note: Separate building maintenance accounts are being consolidated under the Facilities Fund.

The article was moved as written and seconded,

With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 39:** The Town voted to move **Townhouse Maintenance Funds** in the amount of **\$2,887** to the **Facilities Fund** carry forward balance to be expended on future Townhouse Repairs.

Article 40: 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 the property tax levy limit.

Note: To be decided by written ballot

The article was moved as written and seconded,

With some discussion and explanation by Jeffrey and Yolanda,

Yolanda explained, she had to go back a few years to calculate it out for this year. We are over the State Levy Limit by \$77,963.

Went to vote by written ballot, 71 – Yes & 16 – No, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 40:** The Town voted 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 the property tax levy limit.

Article 41: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and authorize the **Select Board to expend funds from the following General Fund revenue sources to be applied toward the 22/23 budget** thereby decreasing the amount to be raised from property taxes.

Auto Excise	\$390,000
Boat Excise	\$ 2,000
Agent Fees	\$ 10,650
Licenses/Certificates	\$ 1,000
Interest on Taxes	\$ 5,500
Lien Cost	\$ 6,000
Veteran	\$ 1,500
Tree Growth	\$ 6,500
Local Roads Assistance Program	\$ 35,000
Cable Franchise Fees	\$ 4,500
Cemetery Mowing Reimbursement	\$ 1,600
Will Turner Charity Fund (Food Pantry)	\$ 1,500
Unassigned Fund Balance	<u>\$ 70,000</u>
Total	\$535,750

21/22 Budget was \$481,600

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS: \$535,750

The article was moved as \$635,750 and seconded,

With an explanation by Chairman Lester Sheaffer, he explained once the audit was completed, after our budget was finalized, we had a higher unassigned fund balance then we anticipated, this increase of \$100,000 allows us to reduce the amount to be raised by taxes. The amount to come from Unassigned Fund Balance is **\$170,000**

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 41:** The Town voted to appropriate **\$635,750** and authorize the **Select Board to expend funds from the above General Fund revenue sources as listed, with \$170,000 to come from Unassigned Fund Balance, to be applied toward the 22/23 budget** thereby decreasing the amount to be raised from property taxes.

Article 42: To authorize the **Select Board to accept and expend any other revenue from State, Federal, local or private sources** for the support of the Town during the ensuing fiscal year.

The article was moved as written and seconded,

With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 42:** The Town voted to authorize the **Select Board to accept and expend any other revenue from State, Federal, local or private sources** for the support of the Town during the ensuing fiscal year.

Article 43: To see if the town will vote to **change the position of Road Commissioner** from **elected to appointed** beginning at the March 2023 Annual Town Meeting, after which the select board shall appoint the Road Commissioner for a term of two (2) years.

Note: This has previously been an elected position. The Road Committee recommended it be changed to an appointed vs. an elected position.

The article was moved as written and seconded,

With little discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 43:** The Town voted to **change the position of Road Commissioner** from **elected to Appointed** beginning at the March 2023 Annual Town Meeting, after which the select board shall appoint the Road Commissioner for a term of two (2) years.

Article 44: Shall the Town vote to appropriate **up to \$30,700 from Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (aka American Rescue Plan Act or “ARPA” funds)** received by the Town from the federal government for the following: **Premium pay for essential workers, retirement, fica, etc.**

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS APPROVAL

Note: This includes Office Staff, Fire Fighters, EMS, Elections & Recycle. These funds may be expended in FYE 6.30.22 or FYE 6.30.23.

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,

With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 44:** The Town voted to appropriate **up to \$30,700 from Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (aka American Rescue Plan Act or “ARPA” funds)** received by the Town from the federal government for the following: **Premium pay for essential workers, retirement, fica, etc.**

These funds may be expended in FYE 6.30.22 or FYE 6.30.23.

Article 45: Shall the Town vote to appropriate **up to \$20,000 from Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (aka American Rescue Plan Act or “ARPA” funds)** received by the Town from the federal government for the following: **Electronic Sign.**

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS APPROVAL

Note: This is for the purchase of an Electronic Sign to be installed at Fire Station or Town Office. These funds may be expended in FYE 6.30.22 or FYE 6.30.23.

The article was moved as \$0 and seconded,

With Much discussion, many thoughts, comments and questions. The original motion of \$0 was then asked to be withdrawn, moderator verified with the Roberts Rule that is possible. It went to vote unanimously to withdraw the \$0 motion.

Then a motion to adopt as written, up to \$20,000, was seconded and with more discussion, questions, comments. Went on for some time, till a motion to limit debate to one more comment, seconded and passed. After last comment....

Went to vote by show of hands, majority Not in favor, Motion failed as amended at the up to \$20,000.

***Article 45:** The Town voted to **NOT Appropriate from Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (aka American Rescue Plan Act or “ARPA” funds)** received by the Town from the federal government for the following:
Electronic Sign.

Article 46: Shall the Town vote to appropriate **up to \$14,100 from Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (aka American Rescue Plan Act or “ARPA” funds)** received by the Town from the federal government for the following: **Whitefield Fire Department / EMS.**

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS APPROVAL

Note: This is for the upgrade of radio equipment. These funds may be expended in FYE 6.30.22 or FYE 6.30.23

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,

With little discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 46:** The Town voted to appropriate **up to \$14,100 from Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (aka American Rescue Plan Act or “ARPA” funds)** received by the Town from the federal government for the following: **Whitefield Fire Department / EMS.** These funds may be expended in FYE 6.30.22 or FYE 6.30.23.

Article 47: Shall the Town vote to appropriate **up to \$12,000 from Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (aka American Rescue Plan Act or “ARPA” funds)** received by the Town from the federal government for the following: **Whitefield Library.**

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS APPROVAL

Note: This is for the installation of an alternate heat source. These funds may be expended in FYE 6.30.22 or FYE 6.30.23.

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,

With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 47:** The Town voted to appropriate **up to \$12,000 from Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (aka American Rescue Plan Act or “ARPA” funds)** received by the Town from the federal government for the following: **Whitefield Library**. These funds may be expended in FYE 6.30.22 or FYE 6.30.23.

Article 48: Shall the Town vote to appropriate **\$5,000 from Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (aka American Rescue Plan Act or “ARPA” funds)** received by the Town from the federal government for the following: **Whitefield Athletic Association**.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDS APPROVAL

Note: This is for the installation of a new Storage Building/Snack Shack. These funds may be expended in FYE 6.30.22 or FYE 6.30.23.

The article was moved as written, from the Select Board recommendation and seconded,
With little discussion, a few questions

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 48:** The Town voted to appropriate **\$5,000 from Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (aka American Rescue Plan Act or “ARPA” funds)** received by the Town from the federal government for the following: **Whitefield Athletic Association**. These funds may be expended in FYE 6.30.22 or FYE 6.30.23.

Article 49: To see if the Town of Whitefield will enact a **new ordinance requiring the licensing of Medical Marijuana Cultivation Facilities** not located at the residence of the state-licensed grower.

Note: This proposed ordinance does not affect the cultivation of marijuana for medicinal purposes by a resident of Whitefield on their own property either for their own use or the use of their clients

(See Attached Proposed Ordinance)

The article was moved as written and seconded,

With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 49:** The Town of Whitefield voted to **Enact a new ordinance requiring the licensing of Medical Marijuana Cultivation Facilities** not located at the residence of the state-licensed grower.

The Approved Medical Marijuana Cultivation Facilities Ordinance is posted on the town website

https://townofwhitefield.com/policies_ordinances/

Article 50: To see if the Town of Whitefield will approve the **amended Building and Development Ordinance** as proposed.

Note: This amended version includes processes relative to changes of use at a property, new general standards under Article 9.2 relative to air, odor and noise to provide enforceable specificity, a section under Article 9.3 on specific requirements for the approval of medical marijuana cultivation facilities, a description in Article 12 on what constitutes a hardship and the addition of several new definitions to provide greater clarity within the ordinance.

(See attached Proposed Amendments to the Building and Development Ordinance)

The article was moved as written and seconded,

With No discussion,

Went to vote by show of hands, majority in favor, Motion passes as written.

***Article 50:** The Town of Whitefield voted to **Approve** the **amended Building and Development Ordinance** as proposed.

The Approved Building and Development Ordinance (as amended) is posted on the town website

https://townofwhitefield.com/policies_ordinances/

Article 51: To see if the Town of Whitefield will **approve a moratorium on any commercial or community ground-mounted solar energy system** to allow the Town's Planning Board time to develop suitable regulations governing such facilities.

Note: The proposed moratorium does NOT apply to any solar panel collection system or array undertaken by individuals on their own property for their personal use.

(See Attached Proposed Solar Moratorium)

The article was moved as written and seconded,

With much discussion, Planning Board Member Daniel Burns gave a brief explanation, Nick Sampson, from Revision Energy and Ellis Percy, the landowner, answered questions.

Went to vote by show of hands, majority Not in favor, Motion failed as written.

***Article 51:** The Town of Whitefield voted to **NOT approve a moratorium on any commercial or community ground-mounted solar energy system.**

Jeffrey Frankel, Moderator, looked for a motion to Adjourn the Meeting,

A motion was made and seconded, no discussion, all approved....

The meeting was Adjourned at 12:57 pm