

Town of Whitefield
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

2020

Moderator Brekke called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

The JROTC from White Mountains Regional High School presented the colors. Moderator Brekke led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator introduced the head table as well as his Assistant Moderator, Bill Jones.

Moderator Brekke reviewed the results from the balloting during the day:

Article 01. The polls were opened at 8:00 o'clock in the forenoon by Moderator Brekke and closed at 6:00 o'clock in the afternoon. The results being as follows:

Selectperson (Three-Year Term)	John E. Tholl, Jr. - 177 Shawn White - 213
Treasurer (Three-Year Term)	Kathleen S. Dunlap - 365
Library Trustees (Two Trustees, Three-Year Terms)	Marion D. Dunham - 250 Lucy E. Weeks - 328
Cemetery Trustee (Three-Year Term)	Virgil Arthur Hammon - 159
Trustee of Trust Funds (Three-Year Term)	Robert Stiles - 5
Moderator (Two-Year Term)	Bruce Brekke - 352

Article 02. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To amend Article XIII – Absolute Criteria for All Development, Section 6.29 to change the minimum setback for driveways to 10 feet from side property lines and remove reference to downtown area?

The article passed:

Yes – 209 No - 160

Article 03. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To add a new Appendix IX to the end of the Code, establishing the Village District as a special zoning district and to adopt a new Zoning

Map outlining this District, in which development will be subject to all other parts of the Code but the minimum setback will be 10 feet?

The article passed:

Yes – 229 No - 134

Article 04. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To amend Appendix II – Open Space Conservation & Development Criteria, Section III, to correct an obsolete reference, and to amend Appendix IV, Airport Development Criteria, Section II, to correct a typographical error?

The article passed:

Yes – 258 No - 110

Article 05. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To amend the introductory paragraph of Article VI – Development Criteria to clarify that the provisions of the various Appendix sections also apply to development applications as appropriate, and to amend the introductory paragraph of Article V – Process for All Development to incorporate all Appendix sections?

The article passed:

Yes – 216 No - 129

Article 06. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To amend Article XIII – Absolute Criteria for All Development by adding a new Section 6.35 requiring street frontage of at least 75 feet and to amend Article VII – Procedures, Section 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 to require length of frontage in applications?

The article failed:

Yes – 177 No – 180

Recount 3/26/2020: Yes – 176 No – 181 – Article Failed

Article 07. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 6 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To amend Article XIV – Activity: Commercial by adding bed and breakfast, boarding and rooming house, and short-term rentals to the definition of commercial activities in Section 7.1, and to add those uses to the parking criteria in Section 7.2?

The article passed:

Yes – 205 No - 156

Article 08. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 7 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To amend Article XVII – Activity: Residential by adding apartment building and manufactured housing park to the definition of residential uses in Section 10.1, and to add provisions regulating manufactured housing parks to the criteria in Section 10.2?

The article passed:

Yes – 218 No – 144

Article 09. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 8 as proposed by the planning board for the town zoning ordinance as follows: To amend Appendix I, Definitions, by consolidating and clarifying the definitions of “hotel/motel” and “time-shared unit” and provide that they are not residential uses; to clarify the definition of “commercial use”; to amend the definition of “dwelling” as having a minimum of 400 square feet and to exclude recreational vehicles from the definition; to incorporate frontage requirements in the definition of a “lot”; to clarify the definition of “manufactured home” as including those within manufactured home parks or subdivisions; to change definition references from “modular home” to “pre-site built home” to be consistent with State law; to amend the definition of “residential use” to make it consistent with State law and to clarify that short-term rentals are not residential uses; to add a definition of “short-term rental”; and to delete definitions of “condominium/hotel” and “modular home”, each of which are being replaced by other terms?

The article passed:

Yes - 206 No - 127

Moderator Brekke reviewed the Rules of Procedure for the meeting.

Article 10: Operating Budget

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,861,298 for general municipal operations, as detailed below. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority Vote Required)

General Government: A motion was made by Stanley Holz to move the question. It was seconded by Peter Corey. The floor was opened for discussion. Terry Lufkin said in the Executive Section the Selectmen have given themselves a raise, \$500 each. Terry is asking about the Planning & Zoning budget. She is wondering if the revenues the planning board took in offsets the tax rate. John Tholl said the selectmen salaries were raised because the salaries for the Selectmen for the Town of Whitefield were substantially lower than the area towns. John said he feels it is appropriate if people have to take time off from their jobs the selectmen salaries should be increased. Shawn White asked how much we have to raise to get the town reports back to how they used to be a couple of years ago. Shawn would like to make a motion that we raise the general government by \$2,500 to have the town reports have the information they used to have in it. Shawn White made a motion that we add \$2,500 to the Executive section of the

General Government budget increasing it to \$644,056. The motion was seconded by Tom Ladd. The floor was opened for discussion on the amendment. Sondra Brekke said that she agrees we should at least have the minutes of last year's town meeting in the town report. Tom Ladd said he agrees as this is a historical record of what has gone in the past and are kept on file at the NH Public Library. Wendy Roberts said she would support the motion. She feels the townspeople should know where their money is being spent. Wendy said it is ironic where the Selectmen voted themselves a \$1500 raise. Peter Corey said there is no effort to hide any information from anyone. Everything is available at the town hall. If you came to the budget hearing, which is a statutory hearing, you get the detail about the budget. Two years ago we realized that Whitefield's town report was extremely large as compared to other communities. Peter said we examined what is statutorily required and we reduced the report to what was statutorily required and we thought it was a prudent measure to save \$2,500. There is also a tremendous amount of work that goes into putting the town report together. If you want to put the \$2,500 back in the budget and come to the selectboard meeting and express what you want back in the town report that is fine. All of the information that is supposedly being hidden is available. Jim Ash said he agrees what is legally required and what is right and clearly we are missing some pieces, i.e. salary information, budget information. It should be presented more clearly than is represented in the annual report. Jim said he is proposing that a warrant article be submitted for selectmen raises. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the amendment.** The floor was opened for discussion on the article as amended. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the amended article in the amount of \$644,056.**

Public Safety: A motion was made by John Tholl to move the question. It was seconded by Stanley Holz. The floor was opened for discussion. Jim Ash wanted to recognize Alan Demoranville, who is Whitefield's current Police Sergeant and is taking another job and Jim wanted to recognize him. Chief Samson said that Sgt. Demoranville has taken the Chief of Police position in Bethlehem, and it is our loss, but it is a good opportunity for him. He has done a great job for the Town of Whitefield. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$921,155.**

Airport Operations: A motion was made by Peter Corey to move the question. It was seconded by John Tholl. The floor was opened for discussion. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$9,000.**

Highways/Streets & Bridges: A motion was made by Stanley Holz to move the question. It was seconded by Peter Corey. The floor was opened for discussion. Shawn White said he was the PW director for over 10 years and did the budget for the past 11 years and never had a budget increase of 8%. Shawn said there is no one more familiar with the budget than Shawn is. There were years we did less in the summer when winters were rough and years we did more. 8% is too much of an increase. A motion was made by Shawn White to reduce the highway budget by \$30,000 to \$774,559. The motion was seconded by Valerie Yelton. The floor was opened for discussion on the amendment of reducing the Highways/Streets & Bridges budget by \$30,000 to

\$774,559. Shawn said this will still give the employees their raises and insurance benefits, and he believes that Mr. Larson getting another year under his belt with the budget will benefit the highway budget. Wendy Roberts asked specifically what the increases were for. Mr. Larson said we want to rehab Middle Street and we have a plan to replace 35 culverts. This is an aggressive plan. If you want to reduce the plan, he is good with that and you decide how much you want to tackle at a time. **The amendment was defeated by a count of voting cards Yes: 33 No: 48.** The floor was opened for discussion on the original budget amount. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$804,559.**

Sanitation: A motion was made by John Tholl to move the question. It was seconded by Stanley Holz. The floor was opened for discussion. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$193,840.**

Health: A motion was made by Peter Corey to move the question. It was seconded by John Tholl. The floor was opened for discussion. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$2,654.**

Welfare: A motion was made by Stanley Holz to move the question. It was seconded by Peter Corey. The floor was opened for discussion. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$21,000.**

Culture & Recreation: A motion was made by John Tholl to move the question. It was seconded by Stanley Holz. The floor was opened for discussion. Claire Houghton made a motion to amend the recreation budget from \$98,550 to \$85,000. The motion was seconded from the floor. Claire said it is getting difficult for the senior citizens to pay for the budget increases. **A show of voting cards defeated the amendment.** The floor was opened for discussion on the original article. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$150,275.**

Conservation Commission: A motion was made by Peter Corey to move the question. It was seconded by John Tholl. The floor was opened for discussion. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$2,500.**

Economic Development: A motion was made by Stanley Holz to move the question. It was seconded by Peter Corey. The floor was opened for discussion. Terry Lufkin said the WEDC requests \$5,000 every year but it was never meant to add on to their current balance. Terry made a motion to amend the WEDC budget to \$0. The motion was seconded from the floor. Ken Russell said if you defeat this article, it is actually amending it to \$0. Frank Mai asked if someone could clarify if \$5,000 is added on to the \$5,600. Rick Wright said he is the treasurer and said they have \$5,000 in the account. Last year they had about \$5,000, but they spent \$4,000 to pay Horizons to finish off the parking lot study. The money is spent frugally and it is used for town needs. Valerie Yelton said she is unclear on a couple of things, but she feels they are working hard. Is the EDC part of the town government or are they an independent group?

Stanley said they are an independent organization. The Town has historically had a \$5,000 allocation yearly for the EDC. They started taking the money because they didn't have any funds. They are a tax-exempt organization that is not part of the town government. Terry Lufkin said she feels if they are receiving public money their minutes should be available. Scott Marshall asked about the sidewalks in town, and they need to be fixed. He said that you can't even walk on the sidewalks in town. Scott said don't ignore the residents, and fix the sidewalks. Moderator Brekke asked Mr. Marshall to sit down as this was not the time to discuss sidewalks. Terry Lufkin said she doesn't feel it is right to bank the taxpayer's money. They should get it back if it is not being spent. Jeffrey Wiseman said we should be spending our money on things we really need it, and it sounds like they may not really need it. Maybe we should vote it down this year because they don't really need it. Jared Cape who is a member of the WEDC invited anyone to attend their meetings. They are open to the public. He said the Town has copies of their minutes. They want to improve the conditions in Whitefield to further economic development. Terry said the minutes have not been posted since August of 2018. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$5,000.**

Debt Service: A motion was made by John Tholl to move the question. It was seconded by Stanley Holz. The floor was opened for discussion. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$138,856.**

Municipal Sewer Department: A motion was made by Peter Corey to move the question. It was seconded by John Tholl. The floor was opened for discussion. Dave Holmender is confused about the mechanism of funding the water and sewer departments. John Tholl explained that the budgets are approved at town meeting but the expenses to run the water and sewer departments are paid for by the users. In the town budget, whatever is appropriated for expenses is offset by revenue. It is a wash in the town budget. Mr. Gooden said they voted to upgrade the water and sewer systems at the town meeting and he feels that is illegal. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$426,981.**

Municipal Water Department: A motion was made by Stanley Holz to move the question. It was seconded by Peter Corey. Duncan Nevers said he feels that people should be reimbursed for bottled water that they have to buy to drink. Shawn White made a motion to reduce the Water Department budget by \$30,000 to \$513,922. The motion was seconded from the floor. Shawn said in the past the highway and water departments shared a full-time employee who would work half the year in the water and half the year in the highway. Shawn said the 2020 budget has that position being year-round in the water department. Shawn said he believes it is best to keep it the way it has been so they are with the highway budget half a year and half a year with the water department. Shawn said these increases affect the users. Mr. Larson, PW Director, said whenever you accept a grant from the state there are always strings attached. We implemented a new well, which puts us in a category which we have to do a water conservation plan. Rob said our water loss was 42% when he started and we are down to 35%. We are mandated to bring it to less than 15%. They have to monitor the meters as close as we

can. We are implementing more meter readings so we can track leaks. Mr. Larson said an Asset Management Program requires a lot of extra requirements. Mr. Larson said he needs a new full-time employee year-round for that department. The Water Department has two vehicles now. Seth King asked how much money have we gotten from the state of N.H. and are we getting more than we are spending? Is it possible to say we are going the wrong way? Mr. Larson said because we accepted a \$30,000 grant for Asset Management, you have to match it with labor or actual money so we do it with labor. The remaining money is the engineering firm who is doing the mapping. **A show of voting cards to amend the Water Department amount by \$30,000 to \$513,922 defeated the amendment.** The floor was opened for discussion on the original amount of \$543,922. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$543,922.**

A motion was made by Valerie Yelton to move up Article #29 for discussion at this time. There was no second on the motion.

Article 11: Fire Department Equipment Replacement Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) to be added to the Fire Department Equipment Replacement Capital Reserve Fund created in 2007. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made by John Tholl to move the question. It was seconded by Stanley Holz. The floor was opened for discussion. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$40,000.**

Article 12: Bridge & Town Buildings Repair/Maintenance/Replacement Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Bridge & Town Buildings Repair/Maintenance/Replacement Capital Reserve Fund created in 2010. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made by Peter Corey to move the question. It was seconded by John Tholl. The floor was opened for discussion. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$50,000.**

Article 13: Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be added to the Ambulance Capital Reserve fund created in 2004. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made by Stanley Holz to move the question. It was seconded by Peter Corey. The floor was opened for discussion. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$20,000.**

Article 14: Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) to be added to the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund created in 2015. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made by John Tholl to move the question. It was seconded by Stanley Holz. The floor was opened for discussion. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$15,000.**

Article 15: Road Projects Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be added to the Road Projects Capital Reserve Fund created in 2013. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority vote required)

A motion was made by Peter Corey to move the question. It was seconded by John Tholl. The floor was opened for discussion. Shawn asked what the projects were for this year and Rob said Kimball Hill Road, Middle Street, Huron Street, and Water Street. Scott Black said he has been on the 10-year plan for 30 years. They have been going down this road, but everyone makes promises and nothing gets done. He hates being told something that is not true. If you can't do it and are not going to do it, don't say you are going to do it. He said we have been saying for years we were going to fix Middle Street drainage, and things don't get done. Scott said that in the paperwork in the back it says Middle Street was completed. Rob said the plans are completed. Scott said that he has been promised since 1994 that this is going to be fixed. Rob said part of the problem is you need a plan so we have a timeline so we know when things are being planned to be done. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$100,000.**

Article 16: Highway Equipment Replacement Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000) to be added to the Highway Equipment Replacement Capital Reserve Fund created in 2001. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made by Stanley Holz to move the question. It was seconded by Peter Corey. The floor was opened for discussion. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$45,000.**

Article 17: Sidewalk Repair/Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be added to the Sidewalk Repair/Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund created in 2011. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made by John Tholl to move the question. It was seconded by Stanley Holz. The floor was opened for discussion. Claire Houghton asked if the Union Street sidewalk was going to get done, and Mr. Larson said yes it will be done in May. Shawn said the only way the state will assist with the Union Street sidewalks is if the water line is going to be replaced. Rob said he is working with Horizons on getting this done. Shawn said that the Board should work on getting the water line done so the sidewalk can be done. Rob said the culverts underneath the sidewalk need to be replaced. Shawn said we need the State of NH to sign off on that project.

A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$20,000.

Article 18: Recycling Center Equipment Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 (Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the Recycling Center Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created in 2012. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made by Peter Corey to move the question. It was seconded by John Tholl. The floor was opened for discussion. Wendy asked what this money is going to be used for. Rob said we are looking at replacing the baler. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$5,000.**

Article 19: Emergency Services Building Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to be added to the Emergency Services Building Capital Reserve Fund created in 2019. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made by Stanley Holz to move the question. It was seconded by Peter Corey. The floor was opened for discussion. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$20,000.**

Article 20: Septage Receiving Station Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Septage Receiving Station Capital Reserve Fund created in 2019. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority vote required)

A motion was made by John Tholl to move the question. It was seconded by Stanley Holz. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$25,000.**

Article 21: Sewer Collection System Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to be added to the Sewer Collection System Capital Reserve Fund created in 2019.
(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority vote required)

A motion was made by Peter Corey to move the question. It was seconded by John Tholl. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. **A show of voting cards was in favor the article in the amount of \$10,000.**

Article 22: Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose.
(Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority vote required)

A motion was made by Stanley Holz to move the question. It was seconded by Peter Corey. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. Mr. Gooden said the town should not be keeping the old cruisers when they purchase new ones. Those older cruisers should be auctioned off. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$25,000.**

Article 23: Jaws-of-Life Equipment

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) to purchase Jaws-of-Life Equipment for Whitefield Fire Rescue. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority vote required)

A motion was made by John Tholl to move the question. It was seconded by Stanley Holz. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$20,000.**

Article 24: Speed Enforcement Signs

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixteen Thousand Dollars (\$16,000) to purchase and install Speed Enforcement Signs. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority vote required)

A motion was made by Peter Corey to move the question. The motion was seconded by John Tholl. The floor was opened for discussion. Valerie Yelton asked what it was. Ed Samson said they are fixed, solar-powered signs and we will put them on the main routes coming into the

town. This has been discussed quite a bit. The cost has been an issue, but it has been expressed they want to slow the traffic down. John Mumley said he has been here 17 years and he has watched the speed limits go up constantly downtown and three near collisions of people driving too fast downtown. A lot of vehicles do not slow down and he does not see them get pulled over. He feels we need to enforce the speed limit. Stanley said the town recognizes we have a lot of dangerous intersections in the town and we want to improve that. Stan said the long-term plan is having the sidewalk go up to the Summit and the Medical Center and we want to slow the traffic down. The state has suggested we put in those solar powered signs. Ed said enforcement is an issue on various streets in town. We added more money in the budget for direct speed patrols. The last two years we have increased the speed patrols. Valerie Yelton said what can we do to get the signs to issue the tickets. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$16,000.**

Article 25: Repair & Pave Parker Road

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$175,000) to repair and pave Parker Road. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority vote required)

A motion was made by Stanley Holz to move the question. The motion was seconded by Peter Corey. The floor was opened for discussion. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$175,000.**

Article 26: Electric Vehicular Charging Station

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000) for the purpose of installing an Electric Vehicular Charging Station, with Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to come from grants. This article is contingent on the receipt of grants. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority vote required)

A motion was made by John Tholl to move the question. The motion was seconded by Stanley Holz. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. Seth King said he doesn't like the idea of the government subsidizing those types of things. If it is a good investment, then let the private organizations pay for it. Dave Holmander said he understands electric vehicles are a thing of the future. It seems technologically we are getting in front of the curve. This seems to be something in the grand scheme of things we will be competing with the private industry for. He does not feel it is something the Town should be doing. Terry Lufkin said if we put these stations in the town will have to have public bathrooms and dog disposal bags and then they will probably want a tent over it and the town will be liable for all of that. Any repairs and security cameras will be an expense to the Town as well. Do we want to be liable for something that is going to be a private business? Stanley said the Selectmen have been trying to do anything we can to increase revenue and attract business to the town. The hope is if we have a quick charge station, which is desirable for electric vehicles, Whitefield will be on the map. They will know

Whitefield will have a quick charge station. We are hoping that the people will utilize the downtown businesses while they are here to charge their vehicles. Daniel Zajac said he has owned two electric vehicles for 7 years, and there are not a lot of charging stations in the area. It can take minutes to an hour to charge these vehicles. He said he and his wife go to Bradford, Vermont who has the closest charging station. They spend money in the businesses in Bradford when they are there. He feels it will support our residents. There will be direct fees which will benefit the Town, reduce taxes and increase business. Valerie Yelton said she feels it is competing with local private businesses. Rick Wright said he is not against an EV charging station, but he is dead set against taxpayers paying for this. The businesses who benefit from this or other people should pay for these, not taxpayers. Terry Lufkin said Derry got grants for putting in their charging station. Wendy asked do we know what we are getting into with maintenance for these. We should know what the maintenance and upkeep is going to be. Mr. Larson said there is no maintenance for about 7 to 8 years. Have we talked to anyone who actually has them? Where are they going to eat and shop in Whitefield? Wendy would like to make a motion to table the article. The motion was seconded from the floor. **A show of voting cards was in favor of tabling Article #26.**

Article 27: Discontinue Lunn Drive

To see if the Town will vote to completely discontinue Lunn Drive, effective June 1, 2020, at the intersection of Jefferson Road (Route 116) and running 325 feet to the residence at 16 Lunn Drive. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made by Peter Corey to move the question. It was seconded by John Tholl. The floor was opened for discussion. Peter Corey said the Board of Selectmen would ask the voters to defeat this article because since this article was crafted and published and with additional research leaves the status of Lunn Drive in question and until such time it can be properly researched we would ask that you please defeat the article. **A show of voting cards was in favor of defeating Article 27.**

Article 28: Class V Public Road - Airport Road Extension

To see if the Town will vote to accept as a Class V public road the Airport Road extension connecting Airport Road to Localizer Drive, as dedicated to the Town by Presby Plastics, Inc. through a Public Right-of-Way easement Deed dated July 11, 2019 and recorded at the Coos County Registry of Deeds at Book 1515, Page 976, pursuant to RSA 229:1. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made by Stanley Holz to move the question. It was seconded by Peter Corey. The floor was opened for discussion. John Tholl said this is very short stretch of road that is in use for access to the hangers. This was done because David Presby discovered this right of way was actually on his property. It is about 150 feet long, and we already maintain it. **A show of voting cards was in favor of Article 28.**

A motion was made to allow Erik Becker of Tri-County Community Action Program to speak on Article 29. The motion was seconded from the floor. A show of voting cards was in favor of the motion to allow Eric Becker to speak.

Article 29: Tri-County Community Action Program, Inc., Tri County Transit

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000) for the operation of Tri County Transit a community service program provided by Tri-County Community Action Program, Inc. (Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (By Petition) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made and seconded from the floor to move the question. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. Erik Becker said the transit bus is valuable for our communities. It helps people to get to appointments, and he would endorse support of this article. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$4,000.**

Article 30: Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$4,500) for Ammonoosuc Community Health Services, Inc. (ACHS). ACHS is a non-profit community health center that provides primary preventive health care to anyone, regardless of their ability to pay. This will help ACHS continue to provide high quality care to 602 current WHITEFIELD patients, as well as reach more of those in need. (Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (By Petition) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made and seconded from the floor to move the question. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$4,500.**

A motion was made to allow Mr. Herbert Will to speak on Article #31. The motion was seconded from the floor. A show of voting cards was in favor of the motion.

Article 31: Tri- County Community Action Program Inc., Senior Meals Program

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$2,800) for the operation of Senior Meals a community service program provided by Tri-County Community Action Program, Inc. (Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (By Petition) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made and seconded from the floor to move the question. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. Mr. Herbert Will spoke of the benefits of the program. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$2,800.**

Article 32: Northern Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Nineteen Dollars (\$1,019) (.50 cents per capita) for the Northern Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce. (Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (By Petition) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made and seconded from the floor to move the question. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. Beth Cape spoke of the benefits of the Northern Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$1,019.**

Article 33: North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fourteen Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirteen Dollars (\$14,913) in support of North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency to assist in the delivery of home health and hospice services to the residents of the Town of Whitefield. (Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (By Petition) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made and seconded from the floor to move the question. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. Katie Marro spoke of the benefits of North Country Home Health & Hospice Agency. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$14,913.**

Article 34: The Center for New Beginnings

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) to support The Center for New Beginnings Sliding Scale Program, who provided services to twenty-nine (29) Whitefield residents in 2019. (Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (By Petition) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made and seconded from the floor to move the question. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. **A show of voting cards was too close to call. A hand count of the voting cards was: Yes: 23 No 30. The article failed.**

Article 35: Caleb Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000) to help support Caleb Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers, that serves the needs of Seniors in the community. (Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (By Petition) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made and seconded from the floor to move the question. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$4,000.**

Article 36: Androscoggin Valley Home Care

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) in support of Androscoggin Valley Home Care and the seniors it supports in the community. (Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (By Petition) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made and seconded from the floor to move the question. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. Tara MacKillop who is a Whitefield resident said she is the program manager, and since Since July 1st they started serving the entire Coos County. They serve 17 citizens in Whitefield. They help with cleaning, shopping, and other home care needs. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$3,000.**

Article 37: Tri-County Community Action Homeless Intervention & Prevention Program

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand One Hundred and Eighty Dollars (\$1,180) to support Tri County CAP's Homeless Intervention and Prevention, a community service program provided by Tri-County Community Action Program, Inc. (Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (By Petition) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made and seconded from the floor to move the question. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. Erik Becker spoke of the benefits of this program. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$1,180.**

Article 38: Tri-County Community Action Fuel Assistance Program

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand and Fifty Dollars (\$3,050) for the operation of Fuel Assistance Program, a community service program provided by Tri-County Community Action Program, Inc. (Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (By Petition) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made and seconded from the floor to move the question. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. Michelle Sanschagrín is the program Supervisor for Energy Assistance. A motion was made and seconded to allow Michelle Sanschagrín to speak on this article. Michelle spoke of the benefits of the Fuel Assistance Program. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$3,050.**

Article 39. White Mountain Mental Health

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Nine Hundred Nineteen Dollars (\$2,919) for White Mountain Mental Health, recognizing that untreated mental illness results in loss of productivity at work, disruption to families and children, risk to the community and loss of life through suicide. Treatment works, but only if it is available and

affordable. (Not recommended by the Board of Selectmen) (By Petition) (Majority Vote Required)

A motion was made and seconded from the floor to move the question. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. **A show of voting cards was in favor of the article in the amount of \$2,919.**

40. Resolution to Oppose Landfill Development

We, the undersigned registered voters of the Town of Whitefield, hereby present by petition the following resolution for inclusion as a Warrant Article at the 2020 Town Meeting:

Resolution Article to Oppose Landfill Development

To see if the town will vote to declare its opposition to a landfill development in Dalton.

1. Casella's proposed landfill in Dalton, being on the Whitefield side of Dalton Ridge, will affect the quality of life in Whitefield much more than Dalton. The town can expect decades of negative impacts and little or no public benefit in service to Casella's corporate goals, among them the importation of out of state trash anticipated to fill 30-40% of the dump's capacity
2. Communities located near Casella landfills, including Bethlehem, NH and Coventry, VT, report those dump's negative effects on public health and their quality of life including water and air contamination, heavy truck traffic, noise and scavenger animals.
3. Major concerns for Whitefield include:
 - a. **TRUCK TRAFFIC AND SPILLS:** Up to **90 trash hauling trucks making round trips daily**, as well as tankers with toxic landfill leachate, are planned rolling past our Elementary School and right through the center of town to Rte 116--then back again to Rt. 3.
 - b. **A RUINED FOREST LAKE:** Forest Lake and nearby waterbodies are vulnerable to **water pollution from toxic materials entering surface waters or leaching into groundwater.** In addition, **fecal contamination** from thriving seagull populations is expected to limit recreational activity and damage aquatic life. The abutting Forest Lake State Park and Beach will be **within range of sickening odors and gas emissions** that often plague neighborhoods near landfills
 - c. **FALLING PROPERTY VALUES:** Homes and lands within several miles of a landfill often lose property value. When this happens, residents ask for **assessment reductions**, resulting in lowered property tax revenues for the town.

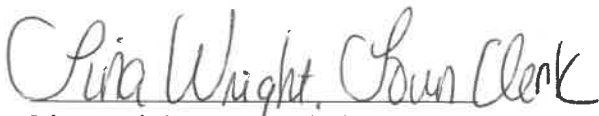
Therefore, we declare Whitefield's strong opposition to Casella's proposed landfill in Dalton and that a copy of this resolution will be sent to the State Governor, our State Senators and Representatives, Governor's Council Members and NH Dept. of Environmental Services, Solid Waste Management Bureau. (By Petition)

A motion was made and seconded from the floor to move the question. The floor was opened for discussion on the article. Sara Doucette and Fred Anderson of the Forest Lake Association who spearheaded this article spoke for support of the article. Sara said that the 180 acre dump that Casella proposes adjacent to Forest Lake State Park is just 12 acres smaller than all of Forest Lake at 192 acres—it is enormous. Sara said some of the first things we will notice about the landfill nearby is: traffic, which will be an obvious daily challenge in Whitefield adding 180 big trucks a day in our existing traffic flow; a seagull threat, negative impact on property values; and air pollution. Sara said that dumps leak forever and remediation is never as smart as pre-emptive, preventive action. She asked that the voters vote Yes for this article. Mr. Anderson said he is here to urge the residents of Whitefield to vote in favor of this warrant article to officially oppose the landfill proposed by Casella on the property adjacent to Forest Lake and Forest Lake State Park. Mr. Anderson said in addition to the traffic nightmare that will be created, another issue is the revitalization of Whitefield's economy, which Mr. Anderson feels redevelopment plans will not happen; potential for biohazard. He urged the voters to yes on this article in opposition to the landfill.

A show of voting cards was in favor of Article 40.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

I hereby certify that the above return of the Annual Town Meeting of March 10, 2020 is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tina Wright, Town Clerk". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Tina Wright, Town Clerk

Town of Whitefield, New Hampshire