

2009

2009 Brownfield Town Meeting Warrant

Brownfield, Me.

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To: Carl Mills, a citizen of the Town of Brownfield, County of Oxford, State of Maine.

Greetings: In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the voters of the Town of Brownfield, in said County, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet in the Brownfield Town Office in said Town on Tuesday, the 9th day of June 2009 A.D. from 9:00 A.M. until 8:00 P.M. for the election of Town Officials and the vote on any referendum ballot questions. The polls will open as soon as Article 01 has been acted upon. All other articles, beginning with Article 02, will be voted upon at the Brownfield Community Center (old Brownfield School) in Brownfield, Maine on Wednesday, the 10th day of June 2009 A.D. at 7:00 P.M.

This Meeting was called to order by Town Clerk, Wanda Bartlett, at 9:00 A.M. and the following Articles were acted upon.

ARTICLE 01: To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting who will follow the Rules of Procedure from the Maine Moderator Manual.

The floor was opened for Nominations and Michelle Hamlin was nominated, elected and sworn in as Moderator. The Polls were then opened for voting. There were 438 votes cast in this Election out of a possible 1175 registered voters. The Results are viewable at the Town Office.

ARTICLE 02: To see if the Town will vote to dispense with the check list.

Article 02 carried by a show of hands.

At this time, a motion was made, seconded and so voted to bring Article 39 forward.

ARTICLE 39: To see if the Town will vote to increase the property tax levy limit of \$821,778 established for the Town by State law, in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles results in a tax commitment that is greater than this property tax levy limit.

Article 39's votes were cast as a written Ballot in the affirmative, with the monies being amended to \$818,524. Article carried as amended.

ARTICLE 03: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to appoint all necessary Town officials in accordance with 30-A MRSA 2601.

Moved, seconded and carried as written.

ARTICLE 04: To see if the Town will vote to keep the old Brownfield School to be used as the Brownfield Community Center.

Budget Committee Recommendation: 11-0-0
Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0

Article carried as written.

ARTICLE 05: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$15,000 to cover the cost of upkeep and maintenance for the next year at the Brownfield Community Center and to carry over any previously approved and unexpended funds from the previous year

Budget Committee Recommendation: 11-0-0
Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0

This Article was amended to \$10,000 by a vote of 52 Yes and 47 No. The Article then carried as amended.

{NOTE: All department payroll requests are presented with a 5.8% cost of living adjustment (COLA). The federal government determines this percentage each year and uses it to increase retirement and disability benefits.}

ARTICLE 06: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$138,858 for the Town Administration Payroll and Benefits.

Selectmen	\$ 6,500
Town Administrator	32,042
Overtime for Town Administrator	1,000
Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer	32,845
Deputy Clerk/Clerical Assistant	17,660
Registrar	2,000
Ballot Clerks	1,200
Code Enforcement Officer	14,979
Planning Board Secretary	4,712*
Health Insurance	15,303
Retirement	1,977
FICA Share (7.65%)	8,640
TOTAL PROPOSED	\$ 138,858

* Includes 50 more hours per year than last year

Budget Committee Recommendation = \$132,186 (11-1-1)
Selectmen Recommendation = \$132,186 (3-0-0)

This Article was amended to raise and appropriate \$132,186.00 representing no raises. Article carried as amended.

ARTICLE 07: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$99,965 for the overall administration of the Town.

Insurance – MMA	\$ 30,000
Office Expense	18,450
Mileage	4,000
Custodian	2,430
Plumbing Inspector	100
Fire Warden	100
Health Officer	100
Contingency	500
Election Expense	300
Tax Map Update	500
Audit Expense	6,500
Town Report	1,000
Assessment Maintenance	6,500
Seminars	1,700
Legal	4,000

Dues	2,200
General Assistance	4,000
Computer License/Expense/Website	7,250
Memorial Flags/Markers	500
Abatements	1,500
Security System	600
Planning Board Expense	524
Street Lights	5,500
Fire Suppression	0
Selectmen's Overlay	0
Website	300
Cemetery Lots	160
Harvest Hills Animal Shelter	1,251
TOTAL PROPOSED	\$ 99,965

Budget Committee Recommendation: 12-0-1
 Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0

This article was amended by newly elected Selectman Walker to cut the Administrative Budget by 10%. Discussion followed whereby Selectman Willets said that the administrative budget had only increased by \$300 and that cuts had been made where feasible. However, the article then carried by a vote of 50 in favor and 37 against to raise and appropriate only \$89,965 for the overall administration of the Town's finances.

ARTICLE 08: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,489 for the position of Animal Control Officer.

Animal Control Officer	\$ 2,869
FICA Share (7.65%)	220
Supplies	100
Mileage	300
TOTAL PROPOSED	\$ 3,489

It is recommended to take these funds from the Animal Control Reserve Account as allowed per State Law.

Budget Committee Recommendation \$3,319 (13-0-0)
 Selectmen Recommendation \$3,319 (3-0-0)

Article carried with an amendment taking the \$3,319 from the Animal Control Reserve Account.

ARTICLE 09: To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the position of the Recreation Director's Salary.

Requested by the Rec. Department:	\$37,827 (40 hours/week)
Salary	\$26,956
Insurance	8,000
Retirement	809
FICA Share (7.65%)	2,062

Budget Committee Recommendation:	\$21,612 (30 hours/week)
Salary	\$19,110
Summer Camp Salary	1,040

Insurance	0
Retirement	0
FICA Share (7.65%)	1,462

Budget Committee Recommendation = \$21,612 (7-3-1)
 Selectmen Recommendation = \$21,612 (3-0-0)

This Article was amended to raise and appropriate \$17,143 (which includes FICA) and to keep the Director at 25 hours. The amendment carried 52 Yes to 50 No.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$16,438 for the operation of the Rec. Department:

Summer Camp Counselors	\$ 6,400
Summer Camp Transportation	900
Summer Camp Equipment/Activities	300
Advertising	648
Training & Seminars	470
Mileage	750
Office Supplies & Postage	650
Phone/DSL	1,080
Community Activities	900
Sports Equipment/Activities	1,400
Background Checks/Medical Supplies	650
Dues	500
Grounds Maintenance/Repair	1,000
Miscellaneous	300
FICA @ 7.65%	490
TOTAL PROPOSED	\$16,438

Budget Committee Recommendation: 7-3-1
 Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0

Articled carried as written by a vote of 49 YES to 42 NO.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,900 for the purpose of Water Recreation:

Swim Instructor Pay	\$ 1,410
Beach/Water Equipment	1,000
Docks	6,361
FICA@ 7.65%	108
TOTAL PROPOSED	\$ 8,879

The Budget Committee recommends taking \$5,800 from the Water Reserve Account and raising up to \$3,100 with the total amount for this Article not to exceed \$8,900.

Budget Committee Recommendation: 11-0-0
 Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0

This Article carried with the Budget Committee and Selectmen's Recommendation of up to \$8900.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,175 in support of the Brownfield Volunteer Fire

Department.

Fire Chief Compensation	\$ 2,400
Member Compensation	11,900
Electric	1,100
Heating Oil	2,500
Training	2,000
Vehicle Fuel	2,000
Safety Gear	5,000
Dues	600
Telephone	650
Building Maintenance	2,000
Vehicle Maintenance	6,500
Equipment	6,500
Emergency Preparedness (special acct.)	100
Hydrants (special acct.)	250
Fire Hose (special acct.)	500
Hepatitis Vaccine (special acct.)	100
FICA @ 7.65%	1,075
TOTAL PROPOSED	\$ 45,175

Budget Committee Recommendation: 13-0-0

Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0

Article carried as written.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$40,000 toward the interest and principal payment on the loan for the new Fire Truck and new Town Garage.

An amendment to take these funds from surplus failed 44 Yes to 48 No. Article then carried as written.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to accept an estimated \$50,000 in Road Assistance and Maintenance as provided by the Maine State Legislature.

Article carried as written.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$146,368 for the Public Works Department Payroll and Benefits.

Public Works Director	\$ 37,690
Overtime	4,077
Road Crew	60,902
Overtime	4,392
Additional Labor	3,500
Health Insurance	24,122
Retirement	3,227
FICA Share (7.65%)	8,458
TOTAL PROPOSED	\$ 146,368

Budget Committee Recommendation = \$ 139,355 (11-0-2)

Selectmen Recommendation = \$ 139,355 (3-0-0)

Article 15 was amended to raise and appropriate \$139,355. Article then carried as amended.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$174,495 for the overall operation of the Public Works Department.

Telephone & DSL	\$ 1,960
Electricity	6,695
Heating Oil	7,500
Vehicle Fuel – Diesel	25,000
Vehicle Fuel – Gasoline	2,000
Maintenance – Garage	2,000
Maintenance – Office	1,500
Maintenance – Fire Protection	500
Maintenance – Vehicles	22,000
Maintenance – Radios	500
Tool Replacement	1,000
Screen Sand/Salt	60,550
Gravel	12,000
Culverts	2,500
Cold Patch	8,000
Bridge Repair	2,000
Brush Control	3,000
Signs	750
Calcium	2,500
Parks & Memorials – Mowing	3,240
Parks & Memorials – Porta Pots	1,500
Parks & Memorials – Electricity	200
Water	200
Erosion Control	500
Safety Equipment	500
Drug & Alcohol Testing	500
Training	500
Uniforms	3,400
Miscellaneous	1,500
Road Sealing	0
Guardrails	500
TOTAL PROPOSED	\$ 174,495

Budget Committee Recommendation: 11-0-2

Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0

A motion to cut the Public Works Operational Budget by 10% failed. Article then carried as read.

For Articles 17 through 21, the Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend taking \$248,340 from the URIP (Urban Rural Initiative Program), Excise and Surplus.

It was moved, seconded and approved to vote on Articles 17 thru 21 as a block.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$211,840 towards paving.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to carryover previously approved and unexpended funds of \$10,164 towards the purchase of another PW vehicle and to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 to add to this

account.

- ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$10,000 toward gravel road improvements.
- ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$15,000 toward bridge replacement.
- ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$1,500 toward the purchase of a snowplow for the grader.

Budget Committee Recommendation: 10-0-1
Selectmen Recommendation: 3-0-0

Articles 17 thru 21 carried as written.

- ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to take over a certain portion of Caroline Drive from Pequawket Trail to Ten Mile Road.

Article carried as written.

- ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to approve the disposal and sale of the property located on Dugway Road (the site of the old Town Garage).

Article carried as written.

- ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to move \$75,000 from Surplus to split equally between the Capital Improvement accounts.

This article was amended to take \$15,000 from Surplus and distribute this evenly among the three Capital Project Accounts.

- ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$133,139 for the Transfer Station Payroll and overall operating expenses:

Manager	\$ 15,132
Transfer Station Attendants	16,014
AVRRDD	45,000
Demo Disposal	18,210
Bulky Waste Disposal	0
Steel Disposal	0
Tire Disposal	3,800
Freon & Mercury Disposal	250
Propane Disposal	750
North Conway Incinerator	18,000
Recycling	3,500
Hazardous Waste	500
Sludge Maintenance	1,000
Electricity	800
Telephone	450
Porta Pots	0
Health & Safety	400

Uniforms	2,400
Heat (Propane)	1,500
Licensing	1,000
Miscellaneous/Mileage	900
Supplies	150
Maintenance & Repair	1,000
FICA (7.65%)	2,383
TOTAL PROPOSED	\$ 133,139

Budget Committee Recommendation = \$ 131,300 (13-0-0)

Selectmen Recommendation = \$ 131,300 (3-0-0)

This Article was amended to raise and appropriate \$131,300. Article carried as amended.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$24,400 for the support of the following In-Town Organizations.

<u>Organization</u>	BC		BC
	Request	Recommendation**	Vote
Historical Society	\$ -	\$ -	-
Public Library	16,000	8,000	7-6-0
Pine Grove Cemetery	3,000	3,000	12-1-0
Burnt Meadow Brook Cemetery	900	750	12-1-0
Food Pantry	2,250	2,000	12-1-0
Lions Club	1,250	0	6-2-5
Beautification Committee*	1,000	-	-
TOTAL PROPOSED	\$ 24,400	\$ 13,750	

* This proposal was not put before the Budget Committee. However, the Selectmen recommend drawing \$1,000 from the Ethel Johnson Beautification Fund.

**The Budget Committee votes on the Budget Committee's recommendation not on what was requested.

There were several attempts to amend this Article; however, they all failed and the Article carried with the original amount of \$24,400 being raised and appropriated.

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$35,385 for the following Out-Of-Town organizations:

<u>Organization</u>	BC		BC
	Request	Recommendation**	Vote
Abused Women's Advocacy	\$ 300	\$ 0	8-0-0
American Red Cross	500	225	8-1-0
Androscoggin Home Care & Hospice	750	750	8-0-0
Community Concepts	2,501	2,500	8-0-0
Conway Area Humane Society	3,000	0	8-0-0
Eastern Slope Airport Authority	500	500	11-2-0

Families in Crisis	100	0	8-0-0
Fryeburg Project Graduation	0	200	8-0-0
Fryeburg Rescue	20,920	20,550	8-0-0
Home Health Visiting Nurse Care	578	578	8-0-0
R.E.A.C.H. (Rape Educ. Crisis Hotln)	250	250	8-0-1
Saco River Corridor Commission	300	300	8-0-1
Seniors Plus	1,000	1,000	8-0-0
Seniors Transport Program	350	100	8-1-0
The Progress Center, Inc.	500	0	13-0-0
Tri-County Mental Health Services	1,500	1,500	8-0-0
Western Maine Transportation Svcs.	540	540	8-0-0
Western Maine Veterans Advisory	175	175	8-0-0
White Mountain Community Health	1,621	1,621	8-1-0
TOTAL PROPOSED	\$ 35,385	\$ 30,789	

*The Budget Committee votes on the Budget Committee's recommendation not on what was requested.

Article was amended to remove the \$500 from Eastern Slope Airport; thereby raising and appropriating \$30,289. Article carried as amended.

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to apply up to \$300,000 of other income (surplus) received by the Town during the 2008/2009 fiscal year (principally excise taxes, interest on delinquent taxes, state reimbursement income and Selectmen's overlay) to reduce the overall amounts to be granted and raised for fiscal year 2009/2010, thereby lowering the taxes needed to be raised by the Town.

Article carried as written.

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to expend funds from the overlay account for unanticipated expenses over and above those approved for contingencies such as legal, over expenditures for snow removal (i.e., salt, sand, overtime, extra help, etc.), general assistance, etc.

Article was amended to insert such as in place of (i.e., and etc.) and to read such as salt, sand, overtime, extra help for winter road maintenance and general assistance. Article carried as amended.

Articles 30, 31, 34, 35, 36, 37 and 38 were voted on as a block. However, Article 37 was amended to increase the percentage to be paid on abated taxes from 2% to 7%. The block then carried as amended.

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to accept any monies from Federal and State Agencies emergency funds, to be expended at the discretion of the Selectmen according to above agencies regulations and guidelines.

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to disburse all refunds received from Maine Fish and Wildlife Department to the Burnt Meadow Snowmobile Club under an agreement with

that organization that these funds will only be used for building and maintaining bridges, drags and trails over land for which written permission from the owners has been obtained.

ARTICLE 32: Shall an ordinance entitled, "Floodplain Management Ordinance for the Town of Brownfield" that references the most current Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) dates be enacted? This stand-alone ordinance shall repeal the portions of the Shoreland Zoning and Floodplain Management Ordinance pertaining to Floodplain Management, as adopted on June 8, 1991 and amended on November 30, 1995.

Copies of this 19-page document are available for public inspection at the Brownfield Town Office.

Article carried as written.

ARTICLE 33: Shall an ordinance entitled, "Brownfield, Maine Shoreland Zoning Ordinance" be enacted? This stand-alone ordinance shall repeal the portions of the Shoreland Zoning and Floodplain Management Ordinance pertaining to Shoreland Zoning, as adopted on June 8, 1991 and amended on November 30, 1995.

Copies of this 42-page document are available for public inspection at the Brownfield Town Office.

Article carried as written.

ARTICLE 34: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to sell and dispose of property acquired by tax process at public sale or public auction, except where it is being sold back to the former owner, or party who has succeeded to the title of the former owner, when a private sale may be utilized. A sale is pursuant to such published notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the Town as the Selectmen deem appropriate with

notification of 30 days prior to the sale. The terms and conditions of any such sale shall be as the Selectmen deem advisable. In all cases, conveyance is to be made by municipal Quit Claim.

ARTICLE 35: To see if the Town will vote to establish the date of November 15 as the date when one-half of the taxes are due and payable and the date of May 15 when the remaining one-half of the taxes are due and payable.

ARTICLE 36: To see if the Town will vote to charge seven percent (7%) interest annually on taxes (and amounts owed to the Town) not paid by November 15, 2009 and May 15, 2010.

ARTICLE 37: To see if the Town will vote to set the interest rate to be paid by the Town on abated taxes at two percent (2%) for the fiscal year.

This Article was included in the block vote following the amendment to raise the interest rate from 2% to 7%.

ARTICLE 38: To see if the Town will vote to hold its' Annual Town Meeting on Tuesday, June 8, 2010 and Wednesday, June 9, 2010.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:20 P.M.

As a point of interest, 108 voters were in attendance at the open portion of Town Meeting.

A true copy, Attest:

Wanda L. Bartlett, Town Clerk

Date: June 12, 2009