

2015

# Waterford Town Meeting Minutes 2015

Brenda J. Bigonski

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## 2015 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Friday, March 6, 2015 and Saturday, March 7, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Town Clerk Brenda J. Bigonski. The greeting and return was acknowledged.

The inhabitants of Waterford were notified by Gary Hill, the constable.

Article 1: The nomination for Moderator was taken. William H. Haynes was nominated and elected Moderator to preside over the voting.

Article 2: To choose a selectman, assessor and overseer of the poor for a three-year term.

John Bell was the only candidate on the ballot. He was elected with 25 votes.

H. Sawin Millett was sworn in as Deputy Moderator to preside at the business portion of the meeting on Saturday, March 7, 2015.

Moderator William Haynes adjourned the meeting until 9 a.m. on Saturday.

The meeting was called to order by H. Sawin Millett at 9 a.m. on Saturday. He explained that he follows the Moderator's Manual and Roberts Rules. Randy Lessard acknowledged Anthony Butterall for his service on the planning board. A plaque will be given to him when he returns from vacation. Bill Murch was acknowledged for his service on the highway department. Mr. Murch will retire on April 10, 2015. A plaque was presented to Phyllis Hunt for Richard Hunt's service on the board of Selectmen. Mr. Hunt passed away Dec. 19, 2014.

Article 3: It was voted to charge the rate of 7% interest on taxes paid after December 1, 2015.

Article 4: It was voted to authorize the Selectmen to transfer surplus in some budget accounts to liquidate overdrafts in other budget accounts.

Article 5: It was voted to authorize the selectmen on behalf of the Town to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for non-payment of taxes thereon, on such terms as they deem advisable and to execute quit-claim deeds for such property.

Article 6: It was voted to authorize the Selectmen to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12<sup>ths</sup> of the budgeted amount of the 2015 Annual Budget during the period from January 1, 2016 to the March 2016 annual Town Meeting.

Article 7: It was voted to authorize the Selectmen to make final determination regarding the opening and closing of roads to winter maintenance pursuant to 23 MRSA section 2953.

Article 8: It was voted to authorize the Selectmen to dispose of town-owned assets with a value of \$10,000 or less under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable.

Article 9: It was voted to accept uncommitted monies.

Article 10: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$5,567** for the enforcement of State and Local Animal Control Ordinances. The amount fee paid to Harvest Hill Animal Shelter is enclosed in this figure.

Article 11: It was voted to appropriate **\$1,000** from the 2014 carryover for the Appeals Board.

Article 12: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$5,000** for abatements on taxes.

Article 13: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$15,000** for support of a 1% discount on taxes if paid with thirty (30) days of commitment.

Article 14: It was voted to appropriate **\$4,500** from 2014 carryover for expenses related to a tax anticipation note.

Article 15: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$4,000** for updating the tax maps.

Article 16: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$25,170, \$10,756** from taxes and **\$14,414** from the carryover from 2014 for a certified assessor to update property valuations in preparation of a 2015 revaluation.

Article 17: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$550** for general maintenance and the repair and upkeep of veterans, and non-veterans gravestones in the Bisbeetown Cemetery.

Article 18: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$4,200** for general maintenance and the repair and upkeep of veterans and non-veterans

gravestones in Elm Vale Cemetery.

Article 19: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$750** for general maintenance and the repair and upkeep of veterans and nonveterans gravestones in Pulpit Rock Cemetery.

Article 20: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$1,500** for general maintenance for general maintenance and repair and upkeep of veterans and non-veterans gravestones in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Article 21: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$2,435** for the enforcement of State and municipal ordinances.

Article 22: It was voted to raise **\$0.00** for updating the comprehensive plan.

Article 23: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$45,000** for local fire protection.

Article 24: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$7,500** for compensation on an annual basis for the Waterford Fire Chief and assistant chiefs.

Article 25: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$3,120** for the 457-B retirement account for town employees.

Article 26: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$75,824** for support of health insurance for the full-time employees of the Town.

Article 27: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$25,631** for FICA and Medicare.

Article 28: It was voted to appropriate **\$500** from savings for support of the unemployment benefits.

Article 29: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$4,000** for general assistance (**\$1,000** from taxes and **\$3,000** from carryover from 2014).

Article 30: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$26,024** for support of the Stoneham Rescue Service.

Article 31: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$4,900** for Lake Conservation - Keoka Lake Assoc. **\$3,400** and LEA **\$1,500**.

Article 32: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$2,000** for the Waterford Historical Society.

Article 33: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$16,000** for the Waterford Library Association.

Article 34: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$6,735** for charitable donations.

Androscoggin Home Care & Hospice	\$ 1,252.00
Community Concepts, Inc.	2,933.00
Lake Region Senior Services	425.00
Life Flight of Maine	500.00
Safe Voices	200.00
Senior Plus	200.00
Sexual Assault Prevention	450.00
Sweden Food Pantry	500.00
Western Me. Veterans Advisory Com	175.00
Western Me. Transportation	100.00

Western Maine Transportation was added as an amendment because they missed the cutoff for appropriations.

Article 35: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$224,589** for the care of Waterford's highways and bridges.

Article 36: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$118,214** as a winter supplemental to provide for the care of the roads during the winter months.

Article 37: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$7,216** to replace monies drawn from the checking to cover overages in the 2014 winter supplement account.

Article 38: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$200,000** to continue tarring, surfacing and or resurfacing Waterford's roads.

Article 39: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$50,000** for the Special Equipment Account for the future purchase of equipment and voted to authorize Selectmen to allocate money from the account should the need arise for a piece of equipment.

Article 40: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$18,680** for insurance.

Article 41: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$11,437** for Worker's Compensation Insurance.

Article 42: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$8,665** for fuel, utilities and maintenance for the town garage.

Article 43: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$37,300** for fuel, utilities and maintenance of the municipal building.

Article 44: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$33,389** for office expense.

Article 45: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$40,000** for legal expenses incurred by the Town, **\$10,000** raised and **\$30,000** from carryover 2014.

Article 46: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$113,338** for town officials salaries and authorize the Selectmen to fix salaries within this amount.

Article 47: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$4,000** for care and maintenance of Waterford Parks.

Article 48: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$8,046** for the planning board.

Article 49: It was voted to appropriate **\$4,000** from carryover from 2014 for removal of hazardous trees.

Article 50: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$14,420** for sports and recreation activities. Raised from taxes **\$6,920**, carryover 2014 **\$7,500**.

Article 51: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$5,500** for street lights.

Article 52: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$169,031** for the transfer station.  
Waterford's share **\$109,870** Albany & Stoneham **\$59,161**

Article 53: It was voted to take from surplus **\$0** to help reduce the tax commitment.

Article 54: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$23,658** to repay the Forestry account for the purchase of the dump truck in 2011.

Article 55: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$6,537** (3%) for salary increase budget for town employees that Selectmen will distribute as a part of an annual performance and salary review.

Article 56: It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$115,000** for the purchase of a new 19,000 utility truck.

Raised from taxes - **\$50,000**

Equipment Rotation Acct. - **\$50,000**

Surplus - **\$11,000**

Carry over - **\$4,000.**

Article 57: It was voted to allocate from 2015 revenues to lower the mill rate.

**\$482,825: SRS - \$41,565 — Other revenue - \$441,260**

Article 58: It was voted to direct the Finance Committee to stay within \$6,400 when considering outside charitable donation during the 2016 budgeting process. This amount can be changed at town meeting.

Article 59: It was voted to accept \$20,000 received from Oxford County of mutual aid provided to the Town of Albany by the Waterford and to deposit that money into a special equipment account for future department purchases and vote to authorize the Selectmen to allocate money from the account should a piece of equipment became available during the year.

Article 60: It was voted to authorize the Selectmen to accept donations and grants offered to the Town when they deem them to be in the Town's best interest and to authorize the Selectmen to agree to those terms and conditions that may be set as conditions of the grants or donations and to appropriate any accepted grants or donations for the purposes stipulated.

Article 61: It was voted to authorize the Selectmen to investigate moving from once-a-year to twice-a-year billing for taxes and to authorize the Selectmen to initiate the change during the 2016 tax year should they determine that making such a change would positively impact the Town's financial position.

Article 62: It was voted to amend the home occupation definition of the Site Plan Review Ordinance.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Brenda J. Bigonski, Town Clerk