

2017

# Waterford Town Meeting Minutes 2017

Brenda J. Bigonski

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WATERFORD TOWN MEETING  
MARCH 3 & 4, 2017

Voting for candidates 1 – 6 p.m.

The polls were opened by Town Clerk Brenda J. Bigonski at 1 p.m. on March 3, 2017. The greetings and return was acknowledged.

**Article 1:** William Haynes was nominated and elected moderator to preside over the election. He was sworn into office by the Town Clerk.

**Article 2: Randy Lessard** was elected Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor for a 3-year term. There were 170 votes. Randy Lessard received 162 votes and Allan Barden received 8 votes. Barry Patrie received 132 votes. Once the votes were counted, Mr. Haynes adjourned the meeting until 9 a.m. the following morning.

H. Sawin Millett was sworn in as deputy moderator by William Haynes to preside over the business meeting on March 4, 2017.

The business meeting was called to order at 9 a.m. March 4, 2017 by H. Sawin Millett, who announced he would follow procedures contained in the MMA moderator's manual. The results of the election were read.

**Article 3:** It was voted to charge the rate of (7%) on taxes paid after December 1, 2017.

**Article 4:** It was voted to authorize the Selectmen to temporarily borrow from the town's surplus account in order to ensure that the Town has sufficient funds available to cover municipal obligations. All borrowed money will be returned to surplus within 60 days of the tax commitment.

**Article 5:** It was voted to authorize the Selectmen to temporarily borrow from the following reserve accounts in order to cover temporary cash flow issues that might arise prior to the receipt of the CY 2017 tax monies. All borrowed money will be returned to the appropriate accounts within 60 days of the tax commitment.

*Forestry Account, Equipment Rotation Account.*

**Article 6:** It was voted to authorize the Selectmen to permanently transfer surplus from some budgeted accounts in order to cover overdrafts in other budgeted accounts.

**Article 7:** It was voted to grant Selectmen the same authority granted to them by article 4, 5, and 6 for the period of January 1, 2018 through the Annual Town Meeting in March of 2018.

**Article 8:** It was voted to grant the Selectmen authority to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12<sup>ths</sup> of the budgeted amount of the 2017 annual budget during the period from January 1, 2018 to the March, 2018 annual town meeting.

**Article 9:** There was no article.

**Article 10:** It was voted to establish the following accounts as reserve accounts and authorized the Selectmen to draw from these accounts in order to use those funds for the purposes that those accounts were established.

*Bisbeetown, Elm Vale, Pulpit Rock and Woodlawn Reserve Accounts, Garage improvement, winter roads, and equipment rotation accounts  
Sports & Recreation and sand lot accounts and fire department and surplus saving accounts.*

**Article 11:** 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 12:** 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 13:** It was voted to authorize the Selectmen to dispose of town-owned assets with a value of **\$30,000** or less under such terms and conditions as they deem advisable. This amount was amended from \$10,000.

**Article 14:** It was voted to allow the Town to accept uncommitted funds.

**Article 15:** It was voted to raise from taxes \$4,632, and to appropriate \$938 from carryover for enforcement of STATE and LOCAL Animal control ordinances for the ensuing year for a total of **\$5,570**. This amount includes the fee paid to Harvest Hills Animal Shelter.

**Article 16:** It was voted to raise \$137 from taxes and appropriate \$863 from previous year carryover for the expenses of the Appeals Board (**total \$1,000**).

**Article 17:** It was voted to raise \$2,984 from taxes and appropriate \$2,016 totaling **\$5,000** for abatements on taxes for the ensuing year.

**Article 18:** It was voted to raise \$10,951 from taxes and appropriate \$6,549 from a carryover from prior year totaling **\$17,500** for support of the 1% discount on taxes paid within thirty (30) days of commitment.

**Article 19:** It was voted to raise and appropriate \$0 for expenses related to a tax anticipation note and carry over \$4,500.

**Article 20:** It was voted to raise \$1,500 from taxes and appropriate \$2,500 from the carryover from prior year for updating the Tax Maps (**total \$4,000**).

**Article 21:** It was voted to raise \$12,176 from taxes and appropriate \$12,994 from the carryover from prior years (**total \$25,170**).

**Article 22:** It was voted to raise **\$650** from taxes for general maintenance and repair and upkeep of veterans and non-veterans gravestones in the Bisbeetown Cemetery for the ensuing year.

**Article 23:** It was voted to raise \$3,168 from taxes and appropriate \$1,032 from the carryover from prior year for general maintenance and repair and upkeep of veterans and non-veterans gravestones in Elm Vale Cemetery for the ensuing year (**total \$4,200**).

**Article 24:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$1,300** from taxes for general maintenance and repair and upkeep of veterans and non-veterans gravestones in Pulpit Rock Cemetery for the ensuing year.

**Article 25:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$1,600** from taxes for general maintenance and repair and upkeep of veterans and non-veterans gravestones in Woodlawn Cemetery for the ensuing year.

**Article 26:** It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$2,300** for enforcement of State and municipal ordinances for the ensuing year.

**Article 27:** It was voted to raise and appropriate \$0 for updating the comprehensive Plan.

**Article 28:** It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$45,000** for local fire protection for the ensuing year.

**Article 29:** It was voted to raise and appropriate from taxes **\$10,000** for compensation on an annual basis for the Waterford Fire Chief and assistance chiefs for the ensuing year. This amount was amended from \$7,500.

**Article 30:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$7,054** for employee retirement accounts for the ensuing year. This amount was corrected from \$7,821 from warrant.

**Article 31:** It was voted to raise from taxes \$73,709 and appropriate \$1,742 from carryover from prior year (**total \$75,451**) for health insurance for the full-time employees of the Town for the ensuing year.

**Article 32:** It was voted to raise from taxes \$24,998 and appropriate \$1,002 from carryover from prior year (**total \$26,000**) for FICA and Medicare for the ensuing year.

**Article 33:** It was voted to appropriate **\$500** from carryover for unemployment benefits for the ensuing year.

**Article 34:** It was voted to raise \$800 from taxes and appropriate from carryover \$3,200 (**total \$4,000**) for general assistance for the ensuing year.

**Article 35:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$26,024** from taxes for support of Stoneham Rescue Service for the ensuing year.

**Article 36:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$2,000** from taxes to support lake conservation (Keoka Lake Assoc. and LEA) for the ensuing year.

**Article 37:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$2,000** from taxes for support of the Waterford Historical Society for the ensuing year.

**Article 38:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$16,000** from taxes for support of the Waterford Library Association for the ensuing year.

**Article 39:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$6,150** from taxes for support of the following charitable agencies.

American Red Cross	\$ 0
Androscoggin Home Care	\$ 1,250
Community Concepts, Inc.	\$ 1,750
Lake Region Senior Services	\$ 425
Life Flight of Maine	\$ 0
Safe Voices	\$ 200
Senior Plus	\$ 200
Sexual Assault Prevention	\$ 450
Sweden Community Church Pantry	\$ 500
Tri-County Mental Health	\$ 1,200
Western Maine Veterans	\$ 175

**Article 40:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$203,620** from taxes for the care of Waterford's highway and bridges for the ensuing year. Amount corrected from \$206,116

**Article 41:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$114,214** from taxes for a winter supplemental for the care of the roads during the winter months for the ensuing year.

**Article 42:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$4,000** from taxes for winter sand for residents to take from the town garage.

**Article 43:** It was voted to raise and appropriate \$0 to replace funds drawn from the checking account to cover overages in the prior year's winter supplemental account.

**Article 44:** It was voted to appropriate from 2017 excise **\$240,660** (estimate) and URIP **\$59,340** (estimate) (**total of \$300,000**) for continuing tarring, surfacing and or resurfacing of Waterford's roads.

**Article 45:** It was voted to appropriate **\$50,000** from taxes for the special equipment account for the future purchases of equipment and vote to authorize the Selectmen to allocate money from the account should the need arise for a piece of equipment.

**Article 46:** It was voted to transfer from surplus **\$140,000** for support of the equipment rotation plan and authorize the Selectmen to allocate money from this account in support of the rotation plan.

**Article 47:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$19,622** from taxes for insurances for the ensuring year.

**Article 48:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$11,000** from taxes for worker's compensation insurance for the ensuring year.

**Article 49:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$8,665** from taxes for fuel, utilities and maintenance of the town garage for the ensuring year.

**Article 50:** It was voted to raise \$20,151 from taxes and appropriate \$6,149 from carryover (**total \$26,300**) for fuel, utilities and maintenance of the municipal building for the ensuring year.

**Article 51:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$33,539** from taxes for office expense for the ensuring year.

**Article 52:** It was voted to raise \$241 from taxes and appropriate \$27,259 from carryover (**total \$27,500**) for legal expenses incurred by the Town for the ensuring year.

**Article 53:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$123,922** from taxes for town officers' salaries and authorized the Selectmen to fix the salaries within the amount.

**Article 54:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$4,000** from taxes for the care and maintenance of Waterford Parks for the ensuring year.

**Article 55:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$8,646** from taxes for the planning board for ensuring year.

**Article 56:** It was voted to raise \$650 from taxes and appropriate \$3,350 from carryover for removal of hazardous trees (**total \$4,000**) for the ensuring year.

**Article 57:** It was voted to raise \$11,587 from taxes and appropriate \$2,833 from carryover and appropriate \$18,500 from surplus (**total \$32,920**) for support of sports and recreational activities for the ensuring year.

**Article 58:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$2,000** from taxes for maintenance and repair of the sand lot ball field and park for the ensuring year.

**Article 59:** It was voted to raise and appropriate \$0 for support of the annual Fall Foliage road race. This is a bookkeeping article as the road race pays for itself.

**Article 60:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$5,500** from taxes for street lights for the ensuring year.

**Article 61:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$184,332** from taxes for the use and maintenance of the transfer station. Waterford's share being (65%) and Albany and Stoneham (35%).

**Article 62:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$23,658** from taxes to repay the forestry fund for the purchase of the dump truck in 2011.

**Article 63:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$9,981** from taxes for a salary increase for the Town's employees.

**Article 64:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$3,672** from taxes for additional police presence in Town.

**Article 65:** It was voted to raise and appropriate **\$7,598** from taxes in support of the Waterford WREC program for the ensuring year.

**Article 66:** It was voted to accept the following money as provided by the Maine State Legislature (CY2016)

Tree Growth Reimbursement	\$33,613
Veterans Reimbursement	2,140
Highway Block Grant	59,340
State Revenue Sharing	91,295
Snowmobile Reg. Reimbursement	13,607

**Article 67:** It was voted to allocate \$26,676 from the 2016 school tax surplus to lower the school portion of the mill rate.

**Article 68:** It was voted to take the following amounts to help reduce the tax commitment for 2017.

2017 Revenue	\$ 158,325
2016 Maine Revenue Sharing	91,295
Surplus	37,406
<hr/>	
Total	<b>\$287,026</b>



**Article 69:** It was voted to accept funds received from Oxford County for mutual aid provided to the Town of Albany by the Waterford Fire Department and to deposit that money into a special equipment account for future department purchase and voted to authorize the Selectmen to allocate money from the account should a piece of equipment become available during the year.

**Article 70:** 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 authorized 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.

After Moderator H. Sawin Millett swore Randy Lessard into the office of Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor, the meeting was adjourned at 12 p.m.

Attest: Brenda J. Bigonski, Town Clerk