

Town of Whitefield
Select Board Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2026

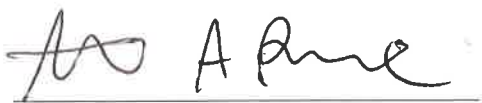
Present: Seth Bolduc (Chair), Brent Hallowell (Vice-Chair) (arriving late), Erin Anderson, James Torbert (arriving late), Brian O'Mahoney, and Yolanda Violette.

1. Mr. Bolduc called the meeting to order.
2. Motion and second to approve the February 24 meeting minutes carried 3-0.
3. Approved and signed the Accounts Payable/Payroll Warrants.
4. Motion and second to amend the February 10 meeting minutes carried 3-0.
5. CDBG – The grant requires the signature of the Chief Executive Officer of the Town. This should be a board member to oversee the work of the Financial Officer, whom is Yolanda. Motion and second for Mr. Bolduc to be appointed and to sign carried 3-0.
6. Kings Mills Union Hall Association – Jennifer Grady, President of the Association, distributed a draft of the Association's grant proposal. Mr. O'Mahoney wrote a letter of recommendation on behalf of the Selectboard. Motion and second to approve the letter of recommendation carried 3-0.
7. Planning Board Applications – Three applications were prepared for the select board to review. Building Application, Development Application and Subdivision Application. The whole Planning Board has not had the opportunity to review the applications. Discussion of the applications is tabled for the next Select Board meeting to give the Planning Board time to review them.
8. RSU #12 Budget Presentation – Howard Tuttle, Superintendent of RSU #12 attended to discuss the DRAFT RSU Budget 2026 - 2027. The RSU #12 District Budget Meeting will be on May 20 at the Chelsea Elementary School and the referendum on June 9. The 2026-2027 municipal assessment for the Town of Whitefield is \$3,287,521.47, a 6.7% increase. Controllable costs, such as staffing, salary and benefits, increased 3.3%. Tuition costs increased 6.1% while special education tuition increased 12.27%. The Insured Value Factor (a percentage paid in addition to tuition for students attending private schools) increased from 6% to 10%. Additional factors that could further affect the budget impact on taxpayers include reductions to the state subsidy, legislation, insurance costs, rising inflation and the suspension of federal funding. Factors that could decrease Whitefield's obligation include legislation to alter the state subsidy formula and the Town of Liberty potentially joining the RSU which could result in a 5% decrease to Whitefield's contribution.
9. Recycling Bottle Collection – The Whitefield Library will decide if they can commit to the biweekly pickup of bottles from the recycling center by Friday. If they are not able to commit, the next organization to be contacted will be the PTA at Whitefield Elementary.

10. Winter Road Salt – The State Winter Salt Bid is open to all municipalities. Bids must be submitted by April 3. This is for bid purposes, not to commit. In the past the town has participated with a 400 ton projection. The board agreed to submit 400 ton for bidding purposes.
11. Town Meeting – The Annual Report will be available in the coming days. The Whitefield Library, Solid Waste Committee, Kings Mills Union Hall Association and the Fire Department Auxiliary requested tables at the Town Meeting. The Select Board agrees to allow the organizations to have tables at the meeting. The Select Board assigned areas of responsibility in preparations for questions about the warrant for the Town Meeting.
12. China is hosting their annual shredding event at their transfer station and has invited Whitefield to participate for a fee of \$150. The Board agreed Whitefield will not be participating on account of costs and distance.
13. The Whitefield Library has submitted their monthly report. The Board will ask for more specific information regarding finances to be included.
14. E-911 sign program applications will be finalized, and prices will be set at the next Fire Department Auxiliary meeting.
15. Maine Helicopter made a mistake when registering a new vehicle which caused them to overpay their excise tax. Maine Helicopter is now requesting that the overpaid excise tax be refunded to them. Motion and second to refund the overpaid excise tax of \$5,074.91 to Maine Helicopter carried 5-0.
16. 2024 Foreclosure – Individual has been in contact with the Town Office and plans to pay the taxes in full within the 90-day period.
17. The concrete planters will need to be set and filled soon. Some money from the grant remains and will be used to buy potting soil. Yolanda will coordinate with others and reach out to the board as needed.
18. Mr. Bolduc had been in contact with a concerned citizen about immigration enforcement.
19. This meeting is Mr. Torbert's last.
20. The roads committee has stopped meeting until after the Town Meeting.
21. A complaint was received from a Somerville resident about the town's "Welcome to Whitefield" sign at the intersection of Main Street and Route 17 near the border with Jefferson. No action was taken considering that the state manages signs on that road.
22. Correspondence was presented and received from Mr Kenneth Wilson on Townhouse Road. No action was taken.

23. Most recent communication from Hatch Hill to the Solid Waste Committee is that applications for an extension of several years to the permits for Hatch Hills life time are likely to be approved. In addition, Hatch Hill, the City of Augusta and the State of Maine are working on long term solutions to the issue of solid waste statewide. Therefore, the solution to solid waste is not an immediate concern.

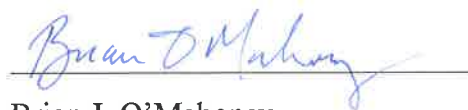
24. Motion and second to adjourn carried 5-0.



Seth A. Bolduc



Date



Brian J. O'Mahoney



Erin E. Anderson



Jose' Ambriz