

Minutes to Sweden annual Town Meeting

9 am, Walter Riseman invited visiting representatives, Tom Windsor and Sawin Millett to introduce themselves and make a statement.

Announcements: Doug Porter – the Sweden Historical Society is planning a spring cleanup around buildings on April 28. Everyone is invited to come and help.

Alberta Ridlon, Town Clerk called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance, and then read the Warrant for Town Meeting.

WARRANT FOR TOWN MEETING

To Kim Ashley, Constable of the Town of Sweden, County of Oxford, State of Maine,
GREETINGS: In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Sweden in said county, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, to meet at Sweden Town Meeting House, in said Town, **on Saturday, the 24th day of March AD 2018, at nine o'clock in the morning,** then and there to act on the following Articles, to wit:

Article 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Alberta called for nominations for moderator. Walter Riseman was nominated by Kathiann Shorey. No other nominations. 3 votes were cast, all for Walter Riseman.

Walter Riseman took the Moderators' oath and the meeting was turned over to him.

Article 2. To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to borrow monies in anticipation of taxes as may be required to operate the services of the Town.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne and 2nd by Ronald Shorey to authorize the Board of Selectmen to borrow monies in anticipation of taxes as may be required to operate the services of the town. A vote was taken and passed.

Article 3. To elect all Town Officers: (1) Selectmen, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor for a period of three years; (1) Planning Board members, 5 years; (2) Planning Board alternates, 1 year; (1) Appeals Board member, 5 years; (2) Appeals Board alternates; and any other necessary officers.

Election of Town Officers: Only one nomination was made for each office shown below.

Nomination: Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor, Ryan A Fowler by Lori Bennett. 4 Votes cast all for Ryan.

Planning Board Member: Melanie Eldracher by Laura Chadbourne. Voted and passed.

Planning Board Altenate: Ronald Kiesman by David Johnson. Voted and passed.

Appeals Board Member: Michele Windsor by Ardelle Foss. She declined the nomination.

: Mary Sohl by Ardelle Foss. Voted and passed.

Appeals Board Altenate: to be appointed by Selectmen.

Article 4. To see if the town will increase the property tax levy limit established for the Town of Sweden by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the following articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee (3-0)

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey to move the article as written. 3 yes votes were cast. The article passed.

Article 5a. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Town Treasurer and Tax Collector.**

<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
\$12,605.00	\$12,857.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$13,114.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$13,114.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey to raise and appropriate \$13,114.00 for the compensation of the Town treasurer and Tax Collector. Voted and passed.

Article 5b. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Town Clerk.**

<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
\$8,284.00	\$8,450.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$8,619.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$8,619.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey to raise and appropriate \$8,619.00 for the compensation of the Town Clerk. Voted and passed.

Article 5c. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **1st, 2nd and 3rd Selectmen.**

<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
\$5,220.00	\$8500.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$8,670.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$8,670.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Mary Sohl to raise and appropriate \$8,670.00 for the compensation of the Selectmen. Voted and passed.

Article 5d. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Fire Chief.**

<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
\$1,801.00	\$1,837.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$1,874.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$1,874.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Mary Sohl to raise and appropriate \$1,874.00 for the compensation of the Fire Chief. Voted and passed.

Article 5e. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Road Commissioner.**

<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
\$2,274.00	\$2,319.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$2,365.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$2,365.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey to raise and appropriate \$2,365.00 for the compensation of the Road Commissioner. Voted and passed.

Article 5f. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Code Enforcement Officer.**

<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
\$4,429.00	\$7,500.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$7,650.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$7,650.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ryan A fowler to raise and appropriate \$7,650.00 for the compensation of the Code Enforcement Officer. Voted and passed.

Article 5g. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Cemetery Sexton.**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
	\$300.00	\$306.00	
Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)			\$312.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)			\$312.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey to raise and appropriate \$312.00 for the compensation of the Cemetery Sexton. Voted and passed

Article 5h. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Administrative Assistant at an average of 32 hours per week for 52 weeks per year.**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
	\$15,234.00	\$15,539.00	
Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)			\$25,841.92
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)			\$25,841.92

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ryan A fowler to raise and appropriate \$25,841.92 for the compensation of the Administrative Assistant. Discussion was held on difference in increase. The Assistant is now in the office and has assumed more duties. Voted and passed.

Article 5i. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Emergency Management Director.**

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
	\$1,159.00	\$1,182.00	
Selectmen recommend raise (2-0)			\$1,205.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)			\$1,205.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey to raise and appropriate \$1,205.00 for the compensation of the Emergency Management Director. Voted and passed

Article 6. To see if the Town will take from surplus up to \$1,200.00 for payment of interest on tax anticipation borrowing for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend take from surplus (3-0)		\$1,200.00
Budget Committee recommends take from surplus (3-0)		\$1,200.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey to take from surplus up to \$1,200.00 for payment of interest on tax anticipation borrowing for the ensuing year. Voted and passed

Article 7. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for **Town Charges** for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)		\$66,875.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)		\$66,875.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Mary Sohl to raise and appropriate \$66,875.00 for Town Charges for the ensuing year. Voted and passed.

Article 8. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate and/or take from surplus for the **maintenance of roads and road sides** for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend raise (2-0)		\$170,000.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)		\$170,000.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey to raise and appropriate \$170,000.00 for the maintenance of roads and road sides for the ensuing year. Voted and passed

Article 9. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate and/or take from surplus for snow removal and sanding for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$195,000.00 and
Selectmen recommend take from Surplus if needed (3-0)	\$ 20,000.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$195,000.00 and
Budget Committee recommends take from surplus if needed (3-0)	\$ 20,000.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey to raise and appropriate \$195,000.00 And take \$20,000.00 from Surplus, if needed, for snow removal and sanding for the ensuing year. Voted and passed

Article 10. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate to pay for Lovell dump contract and to pay for any additional usage charges from surplus monies.

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$43,160.34
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$43,160.34

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Lori Bennett to raise and appropriate \$43,160.34 for the Lovell dump contract and to pay for any additional usage charges from surplus monies for the ensuing year. Voted and passed

Article 11. To see what sum the Town will authorize the Selectmen to draw upon the surplus account for the care of the poor for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)	\$1,250.00
Budget Committee recommends (3-0)	\$1,250.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey to draw upon the surplus account \$1,250.00 for the care of the poor for the ensuing year. Voted and passed

Article 12. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate and/or take from surplus for grounds maintenance, upkeep and repairs for town buildings.

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$15,000.00
Budget Committee (no recommendation) since proposed number had not be determined.	\$

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ryan A fowler to raise and appropriate \$15,000.00 for grounds maintenance, upkeep and repairs for town buildings.

There was a discussion of what needed to be done. Lori explained we needed some repairs to the old salt/sand shed and repairs to the floor in the Town Meeting House. Voted and passed.

Article 13. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for support of the Sweden Volunteer Fire Department Association and allow the balance to carry forward.

SVFD requested	\$35,745.00
Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$35,745.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$35,745.00

A motion was made by Lori Bennett, 2nd by Wayne Miller to raise and appropriate \$35,745.00 for the Sweden volunteer Department Association and allow the balance to carry forward. An amendment was requested to change the article and remove 'and allow the balance to carry forward'. This motion was moved by Christopher Chadbourne and 2nd by Wayne Miller. The amended article was then voted on and passed.

Article 13A. To see what sum the town will take from surplus for the purpose of Sweden Volunteer Fire Department capital improvements for fire apparatus and allow the balance to carry forward

SVFD requested	\$10,000.00
Selectmen recommend take from surplus (3-0)	\$10,000.00
Budget Committee recommends take from surplus (3-0)	\$10,000.00

Timothy Cook, Fire Chief requested to speak before this article was brought up. Permission was voted and passed.

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Wayne Miller to take from surplus \$10,000.00 for the purpose of Sweden Volunteer Fire Department capital improvements for fire apparatus and allow the balance to carry forward. Motion was voted and passed.

Articled 13B. To see what sum the town will appropriate from surplus for the purchase of a standby generator system to be owned by the town of Sweden and used primarily by the Sweden Volunteer Fire Department.

SVFD requested	\$5,000.00
Selectmen recommend take from surplus (3-0)	\$5,000.00
Budget Committee recommends take from surplus (3-0)	\$5,000.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne , 2nd by Wayne Miller, to take from surplus \$5000.00 for the purchase of a standby generator system to be owned by the town of Sweden and used primarily by the Sweden Volunteer Fire Department. Voted and Passed

Article 14. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for support of the ambulance service for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$2,040.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$2,040.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Wayne Miller, to raise and appropriate \$2,040.00 for the support of the ambulance service for the ensuing year. Voted and passed.

Article 15. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the support of the Lovell recreation programs.

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$2,500.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$2,500.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ryan Fowler, to raise and appropriate \$2,500.00 for the support of the Lovell recreation program for the ensuing year. Voted and passed.

Article 16. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the support of Charlotte E. Hobbs Memorial Library.

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$1,750.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$1,750.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Mary Sohl, to raise and appropriate \$1,750.00 for the support of the Charlotte E. Hobbs Memorial Library for the ensuing year. Voted and passed.

Article 17. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the support of Sweden Conservation Committee.

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$100.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$100.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey, to raise and appropriate \$100.00 for the support of the Sweden Conservation Committee for the ensuing year. Voted and passed.

Kathiann Shorey made a motion to combine Articles 18 through Article 23 as one vote. 2nd by Lori Bennett. Voted and passed.

Article 18. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the support of Harvest Hills Animal Shelter.

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$400.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$400.00

Article 19. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for the support of Seniors Plus.

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$200.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$200.00

Article 20. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the purpose of LEA.

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$400.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$400.00

Article 21. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the purpose of Sweden Food Pantry

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$525.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$525.00

Article 22. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the purpose of Community Concepts.

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$300.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$300.00

Article 23. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the purpose of SAPRS.

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$100.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$100.00

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate for Articles 18 -23 the amounts as written, 2nd by Melanie Eldracher. Voted and passed.

Article 24. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for Cemetery maintenance.

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$2,500.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$2,500.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey, to raise and appropriate \$2,500.00 for the support of the Cemetery miantenance for the ensuing year. Voted and passed.

Article 25. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the purpose of legal counsel.

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$ 5,000.00
Selectmen recommends take from surplus if needed (3-0)	\$ 5,000.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$ 5,000.00
Budget Committee recommends take from surplus if needed (3-0)	\$ 5,000.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Lori Bennett, to raise and appropriate \$5,000.00 for the purpose of legal counsel for the ensuing year. Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to amend the motion to include "take from Surplus, if needed, \$5,000.00. 2nd by Ryan Fowler. The amendment was voted and passed. The amended motion was voted and passed.

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to take from surplus up to \$8,250.00 for the renovation of the Sweden's Center Schoolhouse. Proposed work to include restructure of walls and concrete foundation to secure structure.

Selectmen taking from surplus (3-0)	\$8,250.00
Budget Committee recommends (3-0)	\$8,250.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey, to take from surplus up to \$8,250.00 for the renovation of the Sweden's Center Schoolhouse. Proposed work to include restructure of walls and concrete foundation to secure structure.

Article 27. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen/Assessors to use not more than \$50,000.00 of the 2017 anticipated Excise monies collected in 2018 towards the amount appropriated in Articles 5a through 26.
Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey, to authorize the Selectmen/Assessors to use not more than \$50,000.00 of the anticipated Excise monies collected in 2018 towards the amount appropriated in Articles 5a through 26. Voted and passed.

Article 28. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen/Assessors to use not more than \$20,000.00 of the 2018 anticipated Tree Growth Refund monies collected in 2018 towards the amount appropriated in Articles 5a through 26.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey, to authorize the Selectmen/Assessors to use not more than \$20,000.00 of the 2017 anticipated Excise monies collected in 2018 towards the amount appropriated in Articles 5a through 26. Voted and passed.

Article 29. To see if the voters will authorize the raising of the balance so appropriated, not covered in Article 27 and 28 through taxation.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey, to authorize the raising of the balance so appropriated, not covered in Article 27 and 28 through taxation. Voted and passed.

Article 30. To see if the Town will accept the highest interest rate set by the State of Maine Planning Office for delinquent taxes committed in the current year. (Rate cannot be greater than the State rate of 8% for 2017. (should be 2018 AR)

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey to move the article as written. Voted and passed.

Article 31. To see if the Town will determine the date from and after which interest shall accrue on delinquent taxes committed for the current year.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

September 15, 2018

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

September 15, 2018

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey, moved the article as written with the date of September 15, 2018. Voted and passed.

Article 32. To see if the Town will set the interest rate paid on abated taxes to 4 percentage points less than the rate used in Article 30 above by the State of Maine Planning Office.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Wayne Miller, moved the article as written and set the interest rate paid on abated taxes to 4 percentage points less than the rate used in Article 30 above by the State of Maine Planning Office. Voted and passed.

Article 33. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen on behalf of the Town to sell and dispose of any real estate acquired by the Town for the non-payment of taxes thereon; or by other judicial process; said real estate to be advertised in two separate issues of local paper within 30 days of sale. To be sold either at public auction or as the result of sealed bids called for and received by the Selectmen; provided, however, that the selectmen be authorized to sell at private sale property so acquired to the owner on record of any such property; all conveyances there-under to be by release deed.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Wayne Miller, moved the article as written. Voted and passed.

Article 34. To see if the Town will authorize the municipal officers to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount in each budget category of the 2018 annual budget during the period of January 1, 2019 to the March Annual Town Meeting in 2019.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Wayne Miller, to move the article as written. Voted and passed.

Article 35. To see if the Town will vote to take from surplus up to \$10,000.00 for the purpose of funding **capital projects on State Aid roads** and allow the balance to carry over each year.

Selectmen recommend take from surplus (3-0) \$10,000.00

Budget Committee recommends take from surplus (3-0) \$10,000.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey, to take from surplus up to \$10,000.00 for the purpose of funding capital projects on State Aid roads and allow the balance to carry over each year. Voted and passed.

Article 36. To see if the Town will vote to take from surplus \$2,500.00 for the **Contingency Fund**.

Selectmen recommend take from surplus (3-0) \$2,500.00

Budget Committee recommends take from surplus (3-0) \$2,500.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Wayne Miller, to take from surplus \$2,500.00 for the Contingency Fund. Voted and passed.

Article 37. To see if the Town will apply property tax payments to the oldest outstanding taxes before paying current year taxes.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey, to move the article as written. Voted and passed.

Article 38. To see if the Town will authorize or direct the Board of Selectmen to use LRAP funds if needed.

Selectmen recommend (2-0) up to \$50,000.00

Budget Committee recommends (3-0) up to \$50,000.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Lori Bennett, to authorize or direct the Board of Selectmen to use LRAP funds if needed, up to \$50,000.00. Voted and passed.

Article 39. To see if the Town will authorize the continuance of the following carry forward accounts.
Selectmen recommend the following (3-0)
Budget Committee recommends the following (3-0)

Capital Improvements	\$533.21
Comprehensive Plan	\$2,060.61
Dry Hydrant	\$1,757.94
Emergency Road Fund	\$8,876.50
Heritage Fund CD	\$1,854.77
LRAP Fund	\$113,951.89
Planning Board	\$3,000.00
Ridlon Cemetery	\$5,791.58
State Aid Road Fund	\$128,000.00
SVFD Building Committee	\$666.39
SVFD Capital Improvements for apparatus	\$40,000.00
Town Line Marking	\$1,000.00
Town Reevaluation	\$16,000.00

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ronald Shorey, to authorize the continuance of the following carry forward accounts. Voted and passed.

Article 40. To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to use **FEMA** money where appropriate.
Selectmen recommend (3-0)
Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Ryan Fowler, to move the article as written. Voted and passed.

Article 41. To see if the town will delegate authority to the board of selectmen to do the following: (1) establish the number of hours per week when the town office is open to the public and that the elected town clerk and tax collector/treasurer are required to maintain; (2) establish days when the town office will be closed, including for holidays and inclement weather; (3) require that each position serve as deputy for the other and that each be cross-trained to perform the other's duties when necessary and to determine when this training will occur.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

A motion was made by Christopher Chadbourne, 2nd by Kathiann Shorey, to delegate authority to the board of selectmen to do the following: (1) establish the number of hours per week when the town office is open to the public and that the elected town clerk and tax collector/treasurer are required to maintain; (2) establish days when the town office will be closed, including for holidays and inclement weather; (3) require that each position serve as deputy for the other and that each be cross-trained to perform the other's duties when necessary and to determine when this training will occur. Voted and passed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Doug Porter , 2nd by Kathi Shorey, at 10:18 AM.

Election Clerks: Sue Black and Kathiann Shorey.

Respectfully submitted
Alberta Ridlon
Town Clerk