

## Minutes to Sweden Annual Town Meeting

9 a.m. The town clerk, Alberta Ridlon, called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Warrant for town meeting was read and then the meeting proceeded with Article 1.

### WARRANT FOR TOWN MEETING

To Daneil Wassel, 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 23rd day of March AD 2019, 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.

**The town clerk called for nominations for moderator.**

**Julia McQueen nominated Walter Riseman. No other nominations.**

**Written votes were cast, 3, all for Walter Riseman.**

**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 (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to accept the article as written, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. The article passed.**

**Article 3.** To elect all Town Officers: (1) Selectmen, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor for a period of 3 years; (1) Selectmen, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor for a period of 1 year; (1) Planning Board member, 5 years; (1) Planning Board alternates, 1 year; (1) Appeals Board members, 5 years; (1) Appeals Board member for 4 years; (1) Appeals Board alternate 1 year; (1) SAD #72 Board Member for a period of 3 years; and any other necessary officers.

- (1) Ryan Fowler nominated C. Wayne Miller for Selectman and Overseer of the Poor for a period of 3 years. No other nominations. 3 Votes cast, all for Wayne.**
- (2) Ronald Shorey nominated Ronald Shorey for Selectman and Overseer of the Poor for a period of 1 year. No other nominations. 3 votes cast, all for Ronald.**
- (3) Kathleen Lyman nominated Kathiann Shorey for SAD #72 Board Member for a period of 3 years. No other nominations. 3 votes cast, all for Kathiann.**
- (4) David Johnson nominated Laura Chadbourne as Planning Board member for a period of 5 years. No other nominations. Voted and elected.**
- (5) Laura Chadbourne nominated Ronald Kiesman as Planning Board Altenate for a period of 1 year. No other nominations. Voted and elected.**
- (6) Laura Chadbourne brought up the need for a second Planning Board Altenate. No nominations made. Selectmen to appoint.**
- (7) Howard Buker nominated Anders Eldracher for the Board of Appeals for 5 years. It would be a conflict of interest as Melanie Eldracher is on the Planning Board. No other nominations for the position.**

**(8) Ardelle Foss nominated Elaine DeMasse for the Board of Appeals for 3 years. No other nominations. Voted and Elected.**

**(9) Ardelle Foss nominated Perri Black for the Board of Appeals Altenate. She declined. Elaine DeMasse nominated Katherine Reilly for the Board of appeals altenate for 1 year. No other nominations. Voted and elected.**

**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)

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to pass this article as written. 3 votes were cast. All Yes. Passed.**

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

<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
\$12,857.00	\$13,114.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$13,377.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$13,377.00

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$13,377.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Fowler. Voted and passed.**

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

<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
\$8,450.00	\$8,619.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$8,792.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$8,792.00

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$8,792.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ronald Shorey. Voted and passed.**

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

<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
\$8,500.00	\$8,670.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$8,844.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$8,844.00

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$8,844.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ronald Shorey. Voted and passed.**

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

<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
\$1,837.00	\$1,874.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$1,912.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$1,912.00

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$1,912.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. Voted and passed.**

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

<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
\$2,319.00	\$2,365.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (2-0)		\$2,413.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)		\$2,413.00

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$2,413.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Fowler. Voted and passed.**

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

<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
\$7,500.00	\$7,650.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)		\$7,803.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)		\$7,803.00

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$7,803.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Perri Black. Voted and passed.**

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

<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
\$306.00	\$312.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)		\$319.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)		\$319.00

**Laura Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$319.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Perri Black. 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>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
\$15,539.00	\$25,841.92	

Selectmen recommend raise (2-0)		\$26,873.60
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)		\$26,873.60

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$26,873.60, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. Voted and passed.**

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

<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
\$1,182.00	\$1,205.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (2-0)		\$1,230.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)		\$1,230.00

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$1,230.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Fowler. 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

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to take from surplus up to \$1,200.00 for payment of interest on tax anticipation borrowing for the ensuing year, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Fowler. 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 (2-0) \$83,826.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$83,826.00

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$83,826.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. 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

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$170,000.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Fowler. Voted and passed.**

**Article 9.** To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for snow removal and sanding for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend raise (2-0) \$220,000.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$220,000.00

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$220,000.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. 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 (2-0) \$47,303.03

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$47,303.03

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$47,303.03, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ronald Shorey. 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

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to authorize the Selectmen to draw upon surplus account for the care of the poor \$1,250.00 for the ensuing year, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Fowler. 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 (2-0) \$12,500.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$12,500.00

**Ryan Fowler made a motion to raise and appropriate \$12,500.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. Voted and passed.**

**Article 13.** To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for support of the **Sweden Volunteer Fire Department Association.**

SVFD requested	\$34,000.00
Selectmen recommend raise (2-0)	\$34,000.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$34,000.00

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$34,000.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. Voted 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 (2-0)	\$10,000.00
Budget Committee recommends take from surplus (3-0)	\$10,000.00

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to take from surplus \$10,000.00 and allow the balance to carry forward, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. Voted and passed.**

**Article 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	\$7,400.00
Selectmen recommend take from surplus (2-0)	\$7,400.00
Budget Committee recommends take from surplus (3-0)	\$7,400.00

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to appropriate from surplus \$7,400.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. Voted and passed.**

Melanie Ridlon asked why it had to be raised again since it was raised last year. Fire Chief explained it didn't get used so was returned to surplus and has to be reappropriated.

**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

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$2,040.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. 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

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$2,500.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. Voted and passed.**

Meg Dyer from the rec program was given permission to speak. They are not requesting more money although some of the costs are going up. They are asking participants to pay a little more to help keep costs down. There was high praise for the program.

**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)	\$2,000.00
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Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$2,000.00

**christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$2,000.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Fowler. Voted and passed.**

**Walter asked if we wanted to lump Article 17 thru Article 26 and vote as one unit.**

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate the sums as recommended per article, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. 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) \$125.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$125.00

**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) \$400.00

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

**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) \$550.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$550.00

**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

Mia Purcell was given permission to speak. \$19,941 was issued to help 21 residents in Sweden. Our funds help them to get matching funds.

**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

**Article 24.** To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the purpose of **The LifeFlight Foundation.**

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$200.00

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

**Article 25.** To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the purpose of **The Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce.**

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$100.00

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

**Article 26.** To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the purpose of **Community Health and Counseling Services.**

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

**Article 27.** To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for **Cemetery maintenance.**

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

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$2,000.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. Voted and passed.**

**Article 28.** To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate and/or take from surplus 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

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$5000.00 and take from surplus \$5,000.00 if needed, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Fowler. Voted and passed.**

**Article 29.** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen/Assessors to use not more than \$50,000.00 of the 2019 anticipated Excise monies collected in 2019 towards the amount appropriated in Articles 5a through 28.

Selectmen recommend (2-0)	
Budget Committee recommends (3-0)	

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion use not more than \$50,000.00 of the 2019 anticipated Excise monies. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. Voted and passed.**

**Article 30.** To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen/Assessors to use not more than \$20,000.00 of the 2019 anticipated Tree Growth Refund monies collected in 2019 towards the amount appropriated in Articles 5a through 28.

Selectmen recommend (2-0)	
Budget Committee recommends (3-0)	

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion use not more than \$20,000.00 of the 2019 anticipated Tree Growth refund. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. Voted and passed.**

**Article 31.** To see if the voters will authorize the raising of the balance so appropriated, not covered in Article 29 and 30 through taxation.

Selectmen recommend (2-0)	
Budget Committee recommends (3-0)	

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to pass the article as written. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Fowler. Voted and passed.**

**Article 32.** To see if the Town will accept the highest interest rate set by the Office of the State Treasurer, State of Maine for delinquent taxes committed in the current year. (Rate cannot be greater than the State rate of 9% for 2019.

Selectmen recommend (2-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion use the recommended 9% state rate. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Melanie Ridlon Eldracher. Voted and passed.**

**Article 33.** 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, 2019

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

September 15, 2019

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to set the date for which interest shall accrue on delinquent taxes at September 15, 2019. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Fowler. Voted and passed.**

**Article 34.** 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 32 above by the State Treasurer, State of Maine.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to pass the article as written. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. Voted and passed.**

**Article 35.** 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. Except that the Municipal Officers shall use the special sale process required by 36 M.R.S. § 943-C for qualifying homestead property if they choose to sell it to anyone other than the former owner(s).

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to pass the article as written. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. Voted and passed.**

Jenna Domer was given permission to speak, explaining the different wording this year. Due to the new foreclosure law , MMA suggested the new wording.

**Article 36.** 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 2019 annual budget, except for the winter road maintenance budget category, during the period of January 1, 2020 to the March Annual Town Meeting in 2020. The municipal officers may spend more than 3/12ths of the 2019 annual budget amount for winter road maintenance to facilitate proper administration of the winter road maintenance contract. In no case shall the total expenditures for the year exceed the annual budget as approved by vote of the municipal legislative body (town meeting vote).

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to pass the article as written. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Fowler. Voted and passed.**

**Article 37.** 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

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to take from surplus up to \$10,000.00. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Fowler. Voted and passed.**

**Article 38.** To see if the Town will vote to take from surplus \$5,000.00 for the **Contingency Fund**.

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

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to take from surplus \$5,000.00. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. Voted and passed.**

**Article 39.** 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 \$70,000.00  
Budget Committee recommends (3-0) up to \$70,000.00

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to use LRAP funds of up to \$70,000.00 if needed. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. Voted and passed.**

**Article 40.** To see if the Town will authorize the continuance of the following carry forward accounts.

Selectmen recommend the following (2-0)  
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	\$108,856.55
Planning Board	\$3,000.00
Ridlon Cemetery	\$5,791.58
State Aid Road Fund	\$128,000.00
SVFD Building Committee	\$3,666.39
SVFD Capital Improvements for apparatus	\$45,000.00
Town Line Marking	\$1,000.00
Town Reevaluation	\$16,000.00

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to continue the following carry over accounts. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan Fowler. Voted and passed.**

**Article 41.** 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)

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to authorize the article as written. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne Miller. Voted and passed.**

**Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to adjourn. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Melanie Ridlon Eldracher. Voted and passed.**

10:07 AM

Respectfully

Alberta Ridlon, Town Clerk.