

**Town of Sweden Annual Town Meeting Minutes
March 26, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Alberta Ridlon, Town Clerk with The Pledge of Allegiance.

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 26th day of March AD 2016, 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. Peter Malia was nominated by C. Wayne Miller. There were no other nominations. 4 votes were cast all for Peter. Alberta swore him in and turned the meeting over to the moderator, Peter Malia.

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)

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to accept this article as written and the Selectmen's recommendation, 2nd by Wayne. Voted with show of hands and passed.

Article 3. To elect all Town Officers: (1) Selectmen, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor for a period of three years. Kathy Shorey nominated C. Wayne Miller. 5 votes cast all for Wayne.

(1) Road Commissioner, 3 yrs; Christopher Chadbourne nominated Stephen Bennett, passed with show of hands.

(1) Registrar of Voters, 2 years; Susan Black nominated Alberta Ridlon, passed with show of hands.

(1) Planning Board members, 5 years; David Johnson nominated Kevin Taylor, passed with show of hands

(2) Planning Board alternates, 1 year; David Johnson nominated Ronald Kiesman, passed with show of hands, 1 alternate position still open. (1) Appeals Board member, 5 years; Janet Mahannah nominated Ardelle Foss, passed with show of hands. (2) Appeals Board alternates; both positions still open. (1) S.A.D. #72 member, 3 years, Susan Black nominated Kathiann Shorey, 5 votes cast all for Kathiann Shorey. S.A. D. #72 alternate, 1 year; Ardelle Foss nominated Kathleen Lyman, 4 votes cast all for Kathleen Lyman.

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 recommends (3-0)

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to accept this article as written and the Selectmen's recommendation, 2nd by Wayne Miller. 4 votes cast, all Yes.

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

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
	\$12,115.00	\$12,358.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)

\$12,605.00

Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$12,605.00
Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$12,605.00, 2nd by Wayne Miller.
Passed

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

<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
\$7,962.00	\$8,121.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$8,284.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$8,284.00

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$8,284.00, 2nd by Wayne Miller.

Passed

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

<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
\$5,016.00	\$5,117.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$5,220.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$5,220.00

Ronald Shorey made a motion to raise and appropriate \$5,220.00, 2nd by Wayne Miller. Passed

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

<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
\$1,731.00	\$1,766.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$1,801.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$1,801.00

Wayne Miller made a motion to raise and appropriate \$1,801.00, 2nd by Warren Noble. Passed

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

<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
\$2,185.00	\$2,230.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (2-0) \$2,274.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$2,274.00

Ronald Shorey made a motion to raise and appropriate \$2,274.00, 2nd by Warren Noble. Passed

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

<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
\$3,028.00	\$3,089.00	

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$3,151.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$3,151.00

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$3,151.00, 2nd by Wayne Miller.

Passed

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

<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
\$288.00	\$294.00	

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

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$300.00, 2nd by Wayne Miller.

Passed

Article 5h. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the compensation of the **Administrative Assistant.**

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$15,604.00	\$15,916.00	\$15,234.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)			\$15,234.00

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$15,234.00, 2nd by Warren Noble.
Passed

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

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Selectmen recommend raise (2-0)	\$1,114.00	\$1,137.00	\$1,159.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)			\$1,159.00

Warren Noble made a motion to raise and appropriate \$1,159.00, 2nd by Christopher Chadbourne.
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, 2nd by Warren Noble.
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)	\$58,950.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$58,950.00

Ronald Shorey made a motion to raise and appropriate \$58,950.00, 2nd by Warren Noble. 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)	\$150,000.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$150,000.00

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$150,000.00, 2nd by Warren Noble.
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)	\$175,000.00 and
Selectmen recommend take from Surplus if needed (3-0)	\$ 40,000.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$175,000.00 and
Budget Committee recommends take from surplus if needed (3-0)	\$ 40,000.00

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$175,000.00 and take from surplus if needed \$40,000.00, 2nd by Wayne Miller. 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)	\$41,942.91
Budget Committee recommends raise -(3-0)	\$41,942.91

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$41,942.91, 2nd by Warren Noble.
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 raise and appropriate \$1,250.00, 2nd by Warren Noble.

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

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$3,500.00, 2nd by Warren Noble.

Passed Question was asked: Are there plans to maintain the town signs?

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

SVFD requested	\$25,128.00
Selectmen recommend raise (3-0)	\$25,128.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$25,128.00

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$25,128.00, 2nd by Wayne Miller.

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	\$25,000.00
Selectmen recommend take from surplus (3-0)	\$20,000.00
Budget Committee recommends take from surplus (3-0)	\$20,000.00

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$20,000.00, 2nd by Wayne Miller.

Passed Chris spoke about seeing more plans. Ron asked about grant applications. Tim Cook, Fire Chief, said he was looking into grants, but they are hard to get for buildings and trucks. This money will be mostly used to repair the equipment we have.

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)	\$2,400.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0)	\$2,400.00

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$2,400.00, 2nd by Warren Noble.

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

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$2,000.00, 2nd by Wayne Miller.

Passed Ronald Shorey is on the committee for this program and Sweden children use it a lot.

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)	\$1,650.00
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Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$1,650.00
Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$1,650.00, 2nd by Wayne Miller.
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
Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$100.00, 2nd by Warren Noble.
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
Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$400.00, 2nd by Wayne Miller.
Passed

Article 19. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the support of the **Community Concepts** for the ensuing year.

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$300.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$300.00
Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$300.00, 2nd by Wayne Miller.
Passed

Article 20. To see what sum the Town will raise and appropriate for the support of **Seniors Plus.**

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$100.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$100.00
Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$100.00, 2nd by Warren Noble.
Passed

Article 21. To see what sum the town will raise and appropriate for the purpose of **SAPARS** formerly **REACH.**

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$100.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$100.00
Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$100.00, 2nd by Warren Noble.
Passed

Article 22. 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
Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$400.00, 2nd by Warren Noble.
Passed

Article 23. 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
Warren Noble made a motion to raise and appropriate \$525.00, 2nd by Christopher Chadbourne.
Passed

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

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$3,000.00
Budget Committee recommends raise (3-0) \$3,000.00
Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$3,000.00, 2nd by Warren Noble.
Passed

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

Selectmen recommend raise (3-0) \$6,000.00

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

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to raise and appropriate \$6,000.00, 2nd by Wayne Miller.

Passed

Article 26. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen/Assessors to use not more than \$50,000.00 of the 2016 anticipated Excise monies collected in 2016 towards the amount appropriated in Articles 5a through 25.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to vote for the article as written, 2nd by Ronald Shorey.

Passed

Article 27. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen/Assessors to use not more than \$20,000.00 of the 2016 anticipated Tree Growth Refund monies collected in 2016 towards the amount appropriated in Articles 5a through 25.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to vote for the article as written and recommended, 2nd by Warren Noble. Passed

Article 28. To see if the voters will authorize the raising of the balance so appropriated, not covered in Article 26 and 27 through taxation.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion vote for the article as written and recommended, 2nd by Warren Noble. Passed

Article 29. To see if the Town will take not more than \$300.00 from the Snowmobile account for the purpose of maintaining public snowmobile and cross-country ski trails within the Town of Sweden, and allow the Selectmen to spend for that purpose.

Selectmen recommend (3-0) \$300.00

Budget Committee recommends (3-0) \$ 66.20

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to take \$300.00, 2nd by Warren Noble. 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 7% for 2016.)

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to vote for the article as written and recommended, 2nd by Wayne Miller. 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, 2016

Budget Committee recommends (3-0) September 15, 2016

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to vote for the article as written and recommended, 2nd by Warren Noble. 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 31 above by the State of Maine Planning Office.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

Warren Noble made a motion to vote for the article as written and recommended, 2nd by Christopher Chadbourne. William Jones pointed out the error of the referenced article which should be Article 30. He made a motion to amend the Article to make this correction, 2nd by Christopher Chadbourne, Passed. Then a vote was taken on the original article and was 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)

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to vote for the article as written and recommended, 2nd by Warren Noble. 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 2016 annual budget during the period of January 1, 2017 to the March Annual Town Meeting in 2017.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to vote for the article as written and recommended, 2nd by Warren Noble. 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

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to vote for the article as written and recommended, 2nd by Warren Noble. 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

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to take from surplus \$2,500.00, 2nd by Warren Noble. 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)

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to vote for the article as written and recommended, 2nd by Warren Noble. 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

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to vote for the article as written and recommended, 2nd by Wayne Miller. 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 (3-0)

Heritage Fund CD	\$ 1,854.77
Contra Fiduciary Ridlon Cemetery	\$ 5,099.39
Cemetery CD	\$ 5,687.58
Planning Board	\$ 3,000.00
Capital Improvements	\$ 533.21
Comprehensive Plan	\$ 2,060.61
Town Line Marking	\$ 1,000.00
Dry Hydrant	\$ 1,757.94
SVFD Building Committee	\$ 800.00
Emergency Road Fund	\$ 8,876.50
DOT Road Grants	\$134,416.19
State Aid Road Fund	\$108,000.00
LRAP Fund	\$ 83,276.33
Town Reevaluation	\$ 56,000.00

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to vote for the article as written and recommended, 2nd by Warren Noble. Passed

Article 40. To see if the Town will authorize the Board of Selectmen to use **FEMA** money where appropriate.

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

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to vote for the article as written and recommended, 2nd by Warren Noble. Passed

Article 41. To see if the town will vote to take from surplus \$1,800 for the access of **online tax** info. Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to take from surplus \$1,800.00, 2nd by Wayne Miller . Passed

Article 42. To see if the Town will vote to take from surplus \$3,125.00 for **2014 Winter Roads** over expenditures.

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

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to take from surplus \$3,125.00, 2nd by Warren Noble. Passed

Article 43. To see if the Town will vote to take from surplus \$52.00 for **2014 Sweden Conservation Committee** over expenditures.

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

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to take from surplus \$52.00, 2nd by Warren Noble. Passed

Article 44. To see if the Town will vote to take from surplus \$2,912.00 for **2014 Town Property Maintenance** over expenditures.

Selectmen recommend (3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to take from surplus \$2,912.00, 2nd by Warren Noble. Passed

Article 45. To see if the Town will vote to take from surplus \$5,500.00 for the purpose of purchasing additional **vault shelves and preservation materials.**

Selectmen recommend -(3-0)

Budget Committee recommends (3-0)

Christopher Chadbourne made a motion to take from surplus \$5,500.00, 2nd by Warren Noble. Passed

Meeting adjourned 10:10 am.

Respectfully
Alberta Ridlon
Town Clerk