

Town of Bradford
Annual Town Meeting
April 26 & 27, 2024
Minutes

April 26th

Meeting called to order with the polls being opened at 2pm

Article 1: Elect Moderator.

Matthew Dunlop was elected as moderator with 5 votes.

Articles 2 - 6 To be determined by secret voting between 2pm and 7pm.

7pm Polls were declared closed and the counting of the ballots taken place.
Results to be announced on April 27th.

Meeting recessed until 10:00am April 27th.

April 27th

Meeting was called back to order at 10:00am with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prayer by Pastor Booker.

Select Board Members present were

Julie (Chair person), Ed (Vice Chair person) Carlene and Errol

Members absent

Levi

The Election Results from April 26th announced.

Article 2: To elect one person as Selectmen, Assessor, and Overseer of the Poor, for a term of three (3) year.

Terri Allen
167 votes

Errol Hanson
115 votes

Article 3: To elect one person as Selectmen, Assessor, and Overseer of the Poor, for a term of one (1) year.

Timothy Bubar
141 votes

Amber Hines
138 votes

New Select Board members will be sworn in after the meeting.

Article 4: By write in vote Terri Allen was elected but she declined the seat. Seat to remain vacant.

Article 5: To see if the voters of the Town of Bradford will authorize the Selectmen, on behalf of the Town, to borrow up to an additional \$250,000.00 for the construction of a Fire Station next to the Community Center. This amount is in addition to \$1,387,000.00 grant and the \$50,000.00 loan approved by voters last year.

Yes
144

No
137

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate up to \$10,000.00 from Undesignated Funds, to purchase and install a chain-link fence around the water retention pond located 300 feet behind the Bradford Community Center, for Public safety.

Yes
134

No
148

Motion was made to allow Town Manager, Chris Reardon, to speak,
Seconded, *Vote was approved by show of hands.*

Article 7: To elect two (2) members to the Budget Committee to serve a five (5) year term and to elect one (1) member to the Budget Committee to serve a one (1) year.

Nominations

Derrick Hines five (5) year term

Misty Ahmd five (5) year term

Wayne Arrent one (1) year term

Nomination were Approved by vote.

For articles 8 - 39 voting except for Article 23 are voted on by show of hands.

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to make final determination for closing roads in winter pursuant State statute 23-M.R.S.A. §2953 *Approved*

Article 9: To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to accept gifts, donation, bequest, and grants on behalf of the town of Bradford should such funds become available; in compliance with 30-A M.R.S. §5652, which authorizes the Selectmen to both accept and expend both grants and donations. (Note: grants are to be used solely for the purpose stated in award letter). *Approved*

Article 10: Shall the Town of Bradford vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to accept any grant funds (pertaining to the town), which may be offered after application for same through the Community Development Block Grant Program, Department of Economic and Community Development, HUD, USDA/Rural Development, or other State, private, and/or Federal programs, if Town applications are approved, and authorize the municipal officers to accept said grant funds, to make such assurances, assume such responsibilities, and exercise such authority as are necessary and reasonable to implement such programs *Approved*

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of any town owned surplus equipment on such terms as they deem advisable..... *Approved*

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to dispose of any town owned real estate on terms they deem advisable *Approved*

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to dispose of tax acquired property as they deem in the best interest of the Town, subject to requirements of 36 A M R S §943-C..... *Approved*

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to allow the Tax Collector or the Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed and pay no interest thereon, pursuant to 36 M. R. S. §506 discussion..... *Approved*

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to have the taxes committed by July 31, 2024; that they be due and payable on that date, and that all taxes unpaid as of October 1, 2024 be subject to an 8.5% interest rate (The maximum allowed for 2024 is 8.5% per Title 36, M. R. S. § 505 4-A). *Approved*

Article 16: To see if the Town, in accordance with 36 M.R.S. § 506A, will vote that a taxpayer who pays an amount in excess of that finally assessed on April 1, 2024 shall be repaid the amount of over payment plus interest from the date of the over-payment at the annual rate of 4.5% (4% less than the Real Estate interest rate, by statute.) (**Note: This is referencing abated taxes**)*Approved*

Article 17: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to spend an amount not to 4/12 of the budgeted amount in each budget category of the 2024 annual budget during the period from January 1, 2025 to the Annual town meeting..... *Approved*

Article 18: To see if the Town of Bradford will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to transfer funds between operating accounts, except the education account, approved in this warrant based upon changes and the unanticipated needs of the Town during the current fiscal year period provided. The total expenditure of all accounts shall not exceed the projected need to balance all accounts within the approved budget. All such transfers shall be so identified at the next annual Town Meeting. *Approved*

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the amount of the snowmobile refund from the State to the Bradford Snow Blazers Club for maintaining their trails *Approved*

Article 20: To see if the Town will allow the Board of Selectmen to sign a three (3) year Cemetery/Lawn mowing contract for the years 2024-2026 *Approved*

Article 21: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate from undesignated funds for the purpose of paving one mile of town roadway.

Discussion — what roads?..... *Approved*

Article 22: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to use funds from the Parker Lumber TIF up to \$20,000 to fix the Middle Road bridge..... *Approved*

Article 23: To see if the Town of Bradford will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to increase the LD 1 Growth Limitation Factor, if needed, for the 2024 calendar year. This is a written vote.

<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>33</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Approved</i>	

Article 24: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to fund articles 25 - 34 to off set the FY2024 appropriations. Proposed request in the amount of \$847,955.00 the remainder to be raised through property taxes

<u>Appropriations Revenue Requests</u>	<u>2024</u>
Motor Vehicle Excise Tax	\$ 205,000.00
Other Revenue	\$ 135,159.00
Local Road Asst. Program	\$ 33,500.00
Homestead Exemption (Estimated)	\$ 120,000.00
Use of Undesignated Fund Balance(Previous Carry-Forwards)	\$ 44,964.52
Milrate offset from undesignated funds	\$ 87,785.48
Maine Revenue Sharing	<u>\$ 221,546.00</u>
Total Appropriation Request	\$ 847,955.00

Approved

Article 25: To see what sum of money the Town of Bradford will vote to raise and appropriate for the Executive Budget.

Budget Committee recommends \$247,985.00

Select Board recommends \$256,385.00

Discussion on why Select Board is higher then Budget Committee.

Motion was made and Seconded for the Select Board

recommendation *Approved*

Article 26: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Bradford Fire & Rescue Department.

Budget Committee and Select Board recommends \$78,490.00

Approved

Article 27: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Town Maintenance Budget. Budget Committee and

Select Board recommends \$97,060.00 *Approved*

Article 28: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Cemetery Department. Budget Committee and

Select Board recommends \$25,700.00 *Approved*

Article 29: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Road Budget. Budget Committee and Select Board recommends \$404,449.00**Approved**

Article 30: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Animal Control Budget.... Budget Committee and Select Board recommends \$11, 480.00**Approved**

Article 31: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Recreation Budget. Budget Committee and Select Board recommends \$7,895.00 Discussions....need to replace broken equipment....Courtney made motion to amend the amount to \$8, 895.00 Vote was taken on the amendment....**Approved**
Vote to raise and appropriate \$8,895.00 **Approved**

Article 32: To See what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to the Capital Reserves Budget. Budget Committee and Select Board recommends \$ 110,500.00 **Approved**

Article 33: To see what sum of money the Town will Vote to raise and appropriate to the General Services Budget. Budget Committee and Select Board recommends \$13, 600.00 **Approved**

Article 34: To see what sum of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate to the Public Works Budget. Budget Committee and Select Board recommends \$3,000.00 **Approved**

Article 35: To see if the Town will allow all future fund raising and other incomes by Fire Dept./EMS: Recreation Dept: and Bradford Days, to be deposited into each repective reserve accounts. Discussion—
Courtney.....**Approved**

Article 36: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$1,749.61 from funds previously “carried” from year to year, to create the Civil Emergency Reserve. Budget Committee and Select Board recommends \$1,749.61Discussion.....**Approved**

Article 37: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$5,703.43 from funds previously “carried” from year to year, to create the Ballfield Maintenance Reserve. Discussion — Part of recreation account or separate account?*Approved*

Article 38: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$10,000.00 from Undesignated Funds and place in Emergency Reserve account for unforeseen expenses such as emergency repairs/replacements. Budget Committee and Select Board recommends \$10,000.00..... *Approved*

Article 39: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate up to \$30,000.00 from Undesignated Funds for the purpose of replacing the Community Center cistern (water tank) as part of the sprinkler system as required by all State regulations including NFPA25, 2014 edition, section 4.1.1. Budget Committee and Select Board recommends \$30,000.00.....*Approved.*

Motion to Adjourn
Seconded

Meeting Adjourned: 11:00AM

Respectfully submitted by
Karen McNaughton
Deputy Clerk

Given under our hands this 27th, day of April 2027

Town of Bradford Board of Selectmen:

Julie McCarthy (Chair) _____ **

Edward Nevells (Vice Chair) _____

Carlene Oakes _____

Errol Hanson _____ ***

Levi Surette _____

**

Resigned

Term expired 2024

New Members

Terri Allen _____

Timothy Bubar _____