

**Wentworth Select Board
Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2021**

Those present: Arnold Scheller, Jordan King, Andrew Lasser, Paul Manson, George Morrill, Margaret Bickford and Linda Franz.

Called to Order: Arnie Scheller called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

The following documents were signed: Payroll and vendor checks; Meeting minutes for October 29 and November 2, 2021; Supplemental tax bills for Gove and Emery.

The Credit Card Policy was reviewed and adopted.

J.King made a motion to adopt and sign the credit card policy. Seconded by A.Scheller. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

A.Scheller made a motion to issue town credit cards with credit limits as follows: Jeff Ames, \$2,000; Paul Manson, \$5,000; Wallace Trott, \$2,000; Linda Franz, \$250. Seconded by J.King. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

A.Scheller reported on the November 13, 2021 meeting held at the Elementary School where the results of the Master Plan Survey were presented by June Garneau of M.A.P.S. It appears that residents want to keep our small-town atmosphere, are happy with the services of the town, and would like to see the school combined with another town. A warrant article may be written to ask the residents if they wish the town to explore this.

A.Scheller also announced that there was a gathering on Veterans Day at the Veterans Memorial for a short service and a flag change ceremony. Ida Hutchins accepted the retired flag and will arrange for the stars to be cut out and laminated. These stars are handed out to veterans.

A.Scheller volunteered to call the high school to see if any students would be interested in coming to Select Board meetings to set up Zoom meetings and manage recordings for the website. This could possibly count as school credits.

There were no reports from the police or fire departments.

L.Franz will call the Sheriff's office for procedures on how to take possession of a camping trailer that was taken by Tax Collector's Deed.

A seasonal resident, Brent Santy, followed up on a previous discussion about plowing near his property on Saunders Hill Road.

J.King made a motion to have the highway department plow to the end of the class V portion of Saunders Hill Road and to push the snow as far as possible to the sides of the road. Seconded by A.Scheller. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

Margaret Bickford, Pastor of the Wentworth Congregational Church, spoke of the recent renovations at the church, and asked the Select Board for their thoughts on how to get the town more involved with the church. Any ideas from the Board or the public are welcome and will be communicated.

L.Franz reported that there have been many questions and complaints about their assessments. Avitar did not notify property owners of changes to their final assessments from the preliminary assessments. Only those who made a phone appointment after receiving their preliminary assessment were notified. Many assessments increased significantly, and no opportunity to question the final assessment was given. A.Lasser will contact Avitar to discuss.

P.Manson presented estimates for road paving in 2022. The roads involved are Turner, Rowentown and N.Dorchester Roads. The lowest acceptable estimate is \$233,480 for paving and \$21,275 for culverts. J. King does not feel that it necessary to do all the proposed work. A wood top as opposed to pavement on the N.Dorchester bridge will also be explored. The Select Board will meet on Monday, November 22, 2021 at 8:00 am to walk the road from the N.Dorchester Road bridge to Evans Road to evaluate. Paul will present a warrant article for the Board to review.

Paul also reported that he has not received any applications for the third highway employee. He does, however, have some leads for part-time snow plowing if needed. He and L.Franz will work out an hourly wage and report to the Select Board.

A.Lasser made a motion for the Fire Department to issue a fire permit for Christmas on the Common to be held on November 27, 2021. Seconded by J.King. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

L.Franz suggested that a wage range and review schedule be added to the town's Personnel Policy. She will present to the Board at a future date.

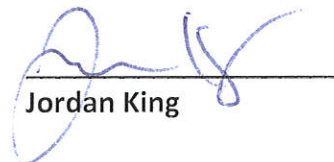
J.King made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by A.Scheller. All three voted in the affirmative and the meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Linda Franz, Administrative Assistant



Arnold Scheller, Chairman

Andrew Lasser



Jordan King