

Wentworth Select Board
Meeting minutes
February 8, 2022

Those present: Arnold Scheller, Jordan King, Richard Ducheneau, Chief Trott, Chief Ames, Paul Manson, Omer Ahern, Francis Muzzey, and Linda Franz

Called to Order: Arnold Scheller called the meeting to order at 4:47PM.

At 4:48 PM, J.King made a motion to enter into a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant. Seconded by R.Ducheneau. By roll call vote, A.Scheller voted yes. J.King voted yes. R.Ducheneau voted yes. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

Re-entered the public meeting at 4:58 PM.

J.King made a motion to seal the minutes of the just concluded non-public session. Seconded by R.Ducheneau. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

At 4:59 PM, J.King made a motion to enter into a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II(c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant. Seconded by R.Ducheneau. By roll call vote, A.Scheller voted yes. J.King voted yes. R.Ducheneau voted yes. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

Re-entered the public meeting at 5:05 PM.

A.Scheller made a motion to hire Dylan Leonard to replace a recently terminated highway department employee. R.Ducheneau seconded. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

The following documents were signed: payroll and vendor checks; meeting minutes for January 25, 2022, Intents to cut for Thomson, Frescoln Bridge Aid Project Agreement with NHDOT, Representation letter for Plodzick and Sanderson, Abatements for Boucher, Mello and Morrill, and Veteran's Tax Credit application.

A.Scheller announced the passing of Steve Davis. He was a past Selectman and was currently the president of the Wentworth Cemeteries Association. He was a long-time resident of the town and will be greatly missed.

He also announced that the Congregational Church will hold a Valentines bake sale on February 12, 2022 from 10am to 1pm.

A.Scheller spoke of the two informational broadband infrastructure hearings that were held on February 1 and 6, 2022. Andrew Lasser and two representatives from Consolidated Communications made presentations and answered questions. He felt that there were some good questions asked, and they were constructive in helping the Select Board in their decision making. Consolidated announced that all residents would get free installation as long as they are on a road or right of way. A representative from New Hampshire Electric Co-op attended the meeting as well to promote future broadband services from NHEC. It was explained to him that the town chose to go with Consolidated because of their expertise with installation and service of broadband in other cities and towns in the state. NHEC does not currently provide broadband at all and would have to hire outside contractors. The NHEC representative has been invited to the next Select Board meeting on February 22, 2022 to present a formal proposal.

Chief Trott presented his written report for WPD activity, and it is a part of these minutes.

Chief Ames did not have a written report for the WFD. He reported that the Fire Department is very close to getting the rescue sled that is being funded by a raffle held by the Baker River Valley Snowmobile Club. He plans to develop standard operating procedures and train his volunteers. He is hoping for another raffle for a dedicated trailer for the sled.


Paul Manson did not have written report for Highway Department. He reported that he has received multiple complaints about mailboxes that have been knocked over in this snowy weather. He explained that the snow plow drivers are not hitting the mailboxes but is due to the snow coming off the plow. If a mailbox is in the right of way of where the town pushes the snow, the mailbox should be replaced with a break-away box that hangs from a chain. The town is not responsible for any damage to mailboxes on posts.

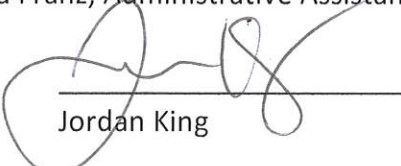
Francis Muzzey suggested that we memorialize Steve Davis in the Annual Town Report. The report is for the year 2021. The Select Board recommends that this would happen next year.

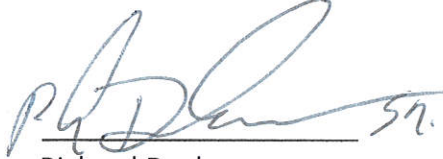
Linda Franz was tasked to get rules on mailbox placement and post on the Wentworth Bulletin Board and on the town website. She will also follow up with Andrew Lasser on the meeting recordings.

A.Scheller made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by R.Ducheneau. All three voted in the affirmative. and the meeting was adjourned at 5:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Linda Franz, Administrative Assistant


Arnold Scheller, Chairman


Jordan King


Richard Ducheneau

WPD Activity Report
Presented 2/08/2022

Please note that the following is a summary of notable activity conducted by the Wentworth Police Department, (WPD), but does not reflect “all” of WPD’s activity during this time frame.

Chief Trott worked during the storm last week and except for the usual issues with reports of slippery roads and a couple of vehicles off of the road there was nothing exceptional to report. The WHD did what I consider to be a pretty good job considering how much we received during that event and then the following day as well.

We did have a report of a couple of vehicles stuck on a secondary road on the south side of Wentworth, one being a traveling nurse, Chief Trott arrived on scene first and with the assistance of Steve Welch from the Wentworth Fire Department and Paul Manson from the highway department we were able to get the involved parties out.

Chief Trott also wants to remind property owners to remember not to plow snow out onto a public and then leave the snow there. They have a responsibility to ensure that the snow is removed from the roadway and the area cleaned up to ensure safe passage of other vehicles.

Chief Trott assisted a property maintenance worker in gaining access to a property where the property owners were out of state and there was concern for broken water pipes. Entry was gained with Chief Trott present and assisting and there was in fact broken water pipes that needed to be taken care of by the maintenance workers.

Chief Trott was not on duty but was notified of a snowmobile operating on the Town Common as well as the Wentworth Village Road. Chief Trott responded and was able to make contact with the owner/operator of the snowmobile. After a brief conversation and investigation Chief Trott issued the owner/operator two Fish & Game citations totaling \$248.00.

Chief Trott is reminding all snowmobile owners/operators that the trails are clearly marked and anyone found to be operating off the trails without permission of the property owners, or, on a public way, will be issued citations. Also, anyone found to be operating an unregistered snowmobile will also be issued a citation.

Chief Trott arrested a Dorchester resident on a warrant for "Conduct After An Accident". This was a result of an investigation Chief Trott conducted recently where it was reported that a vehicle had been struck by another vehicle and the vehicle then left the scene. The Dorchester resident was later released by the Plymouth Court on P.R. Bail and ordered to appear before the court at a later date and time to answer to the charge.

Chief Trott recently responded to Warren NH where he assisted New Hampshire State Police with an arrest. A female was being arrested for operating after suspension charges and was becoming unrulily with the Trooper. Upon arrival the female calmed down and Chief Trott provided transportation to the Wentworth Police Department where a booking was completed. The female was later released on a hand summons.

Respectfully Submitted


Chief Wallace Trott

Wentworth Police Department