

**Select Board Meeting Minutes
Town of Wentworth
November 28, 2023**

Those present: Arnie Scheller, Rich Ducheneau, Brian DuBois, Chief Ames, Chief Trott, Phil and Kim Chandonnet, Paul Manson, Izzy Mercier, Paul and Mary Davis, PRHS Civics Class, and Erin Ganzel

A. Scheller reports that FEMA sent in a reimbursement check for the 2017 Disaster.

A. Scheller makes a motion to transfer the money received from FEMA for the 2017 Disaster be transferred into the Bridge Fund Capital Reserve to help offset costs for upcoming bridge repairs. Seconded by R. Ducheneau. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

Chief Trott shared his report, which is attached to these minutes.

Chief Ames shared an update. A crew of 7 will be attending training in New Hampton. Training will include fire dynamics and arson investigation classes. Chief Ames stated that Christmas on the Common went over fantastic.

A. Scheller reported that all of the Christmas trees decorated during the contest on the common will be sent to the Grafton County Nursing home for the holidays.

Chief Ames stated that burn permits are needed any time there is not snow on the ground. There must be accumulation of at least 1 inch of snow. Chief Ames does request folks to call in if they are burning a brush pile just so that dispatch is aware.

A. Scheller thanks the Welch family for setting up and decorating the tree on the Veteran's memorial.

P. Manson the Highway Department is in full winter mode. There is a lot of maintenance going on inside the shop for various equipment and vehicles. Paul did request approval for purchasing culverts in which he received 3 bids for.

A. Scheller reviewed the bids for the culverts.

A. Scheller makes a motion to accept the lowest bid from Pipe Connection. Seconded by Brian DuBois. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

P. Manson stated the cost of culverts will be coming out of this year's budget.

I. Mercier reminds the community that the Conservation Commission will be meeting Wednesday December 6th. The next meeting will be informational only.

B. DuBois reported that memorial services for Tuula's husband, Ari, will be held on December 10th at 11:30am at the Wentworth Congregational Church. A celebration of life will follow at the Barn on the Pemi.

A. Scheller makes a motion to appoint Tamsin Scott as Health Officer pending her certification renewal and her salary will compensate for that. Seconded by B. DuBois. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

A. Scheller makes a motion to accept resignation from Becky Bordanaro. Seconded by R. Ducheneau. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

R. Ducheneau reported repairs have started at the Old Town Hall.

P. Manson inquired if his unexpended funds from this year's budget should go into next year's budget or be transferred into the Bridge Fund capital reserve.

Chief Ames stated that any unexpended funds in the prior year's budget can be put into a Warrant Article to be but into the appropriate capital reserve fund.

A. Scheller reports the preliminary budget meeting will be held on December 12th at 4pm at the Town Offices. The official Budget Hearing will be held January 9th, 2024 immediately following the regularly scheduled Select Board meeting.

A. Scheller makes a motion to go into a non-public session at 5:35pm 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. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

A. Scheller makes a motion to go back into public session at 5:47pm. Seconded by B. DuBois. All three voted in affirmative, and the motion carried.

A. Scheller reported that the non-public was held to discuss problems going on at the Transfer Station.

A. Scheller makes a motion to go into a non-public session at 5:50pm 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. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

A. Scheller makes a motion to go back into public session at 6:25pm. Seconded by B. DuBois. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

A. Scheller reported that the non-public session was held to discuss building security.

A. Scheller makes a motion to go into a non-public session at 6:26pm 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 B. DuBois. All three voted yes, and the motion carried.

A. Scheller makes a motion to go back into public session at 6:35pm. Seconded by R. Ducheneau. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

A. Scheller reported that the non-public session was held to discuss elderly exemption applications.

A. Scheller makes a motion to go into a non-public session at 6:36pm 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 B. DuBois. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

A. Scheller makes a motion to go back into public session at 6:47pm. Seconded by R. Ducheneau. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

A. Scheller reported that the most recent non-public session was held to discuss employee issues and office hours.

A. Scheller makes a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:48pm. Seconded by R. Ducheneau. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by: Erin D. Ganzel, Town Administrator



Arnold Scheller, Chairman



Brian DuBois



Richard Ducheneau

WPD Activity Report
Presented 11/28/2023

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 responded to a burglar alarm activation at a local residence in Wentworth. Upon arrival it was determined that it was an accidental activation by a family member checking on the residence. The alarm was cleared and the alarm company was notified.

Chief Trott responded to another burglar alarm activation this one at a local business. It was found that that the alarm was activated due to a faulty sensor. Chief Trott made the business owner aware who in turn reported the issue to their alarm company.

Chief Trott met with a sex offender who is required to register with the Wentworth Police Department quarterly. The necessary paperwork was completed and then forwarded to the sex offender registry in Concord.

Chief Trott attended another safety meeting with the staff at the Wentworth Elementary School. The meeting was well attended and very informational. Safety updates to the school were discussed and the emergency response policies were reviewed as well as drills that had been exercised previously.

Chief Trott completed his yearly firearms training and required qualifications. Chief Trott completed and qualified on all three platforms, which consisted of handgun, patrol rifle and shotgun.

Chief Trott was called to a residence on Atwell Hill Road for some reported suspicious activity. It was reported that a helicopter was hovering over a residence for an extended period of time. Upon arrival Chief Trott was able to determine that the helicopter was inspecting the power lines that run across Atwell Hill Road.



Chief Trott responded to Wentworth over the weekend for a request for a civil standby. Chief Trott met with the involved parties and stood by while a snowmobile was obtained by one of the parties. The exchange was uneventful and the involved parties went their separate ways.

I have been asked why the flags have been at half staff. They have been at half staff for two reasons. One is the passing of Rosealyn Carter one of our former first ladies and the other is for the loss of Brad Haas who was shot and killed at the New Hampshire State Hospital recently. Brad Haas was working security at the time and is a retired Chief of Police from Franklin New Hampshire.

