

**Select Board Meeting Minutes
Town of Wentworth
April 4, 2023**

Those present: Arnold Scheller, Rick Ducheneau, Brian DuBois, Paul Manson, Chief Trott, and Erin Ganzel

A. Scheller called the meeting to order at 5pm.

P. Manson reported that he graded along Buffalo Road, Atwell Hill Road, and Beech Hill Road. He expects it will be about a month until all grading is done due to the moisture in the ground.

P. Manson requested May 22nd through May 26th off. The Select Board approved.

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

R. Ducheneau made a motion to go into a non-public session at 5:15pm 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.

R. Ducheneau made a motion to end the non-public session at 5:36pm. Seconded by B. DuBois. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

R. Ducheneau reported that the just concluded non-public session was used to discuss hiring a new employee for the Highway Department.

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

R. Ducheneau made a motion to go into a non-public session at 5:40pm 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.

R. Ducheneau made a motion to end the non-public session at 5:50pm. Seconded by B. DuBois. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

R. Ducheneau reported that the just concluded non-public session was used to discuss the sale of raffle tickets at the Town Office.

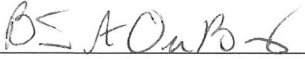
R. Ducheneau made a motion to seal the minutes of the just concluded non-public session. Seconded by B. DuBois. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

R. Ducheneau made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:52pm. Seconded by B. DuBois. 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 04/04/2023

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 has assisted the Warren Wentworth Ambulance service with several calls for service in town.

Chief Trott attended a safety meeting at the Wentworth Elementary School along with Chief Ames. These are regular scheduled safety meetings and prove to be very productive and beneficial to the WES staff especially new staff members.

The two owners/managers of the Legion Speedway Race Track hosted a track meeting last week. Owner/Manager Ron Giroux also invited Chief Trott to attend. The meeting was well represented and there was an estimated 50 plus people associated with the race track who attended. It was well organized and informative. Chief Trott and Chief Ames have a tentative race schedule for the 2023 season and we anticipate that Ron Giroux will scheduling a meeting with the Wentworth Selectmen soon regarding the upcoming season.

Chief Trott took a report concerning a domestic concern between a husband and wife. Chief Trott went over domestic rights with the reporting party, however, she reported no crimes at that time and did not wish any further services regarding her situation. Before leaving Chief Trott give her some direction and options regarding her rights and what services are available to her. This situation may present itself at some time again in the future.

Chief Trott took part in the funeral procession for Detective Sergeant Barry Tanner who recently passed away. Det Sgt Tanner was a 30 year veteran of law enforcement and served several law enforcement agencies here in the north country.



Chief Trott wants to remind our residents and people driving on our roads that it is spring and with that comes more interaction with our wildlife. Chief Trott has seen two separate moose now in Wentworth. One is an adult female that is seen on a regular basis on North Dorchester Road in the area of the snowmobile club and one that looks to be even larger and darker in color that has been seen on the power lines along Mount Moosilauke Highway in the area of Turner Road and Saunders Hill Road. Chief Trott has also seen one the first spring bears making their appearance on the south end of Wentworth.



Old Town Hall

The COVID pandemic brought to the forefront the issue of Wentworth's lack of public meeting spaces and our goal now is to ensure preparedness in the event of another public health emergency, be it for health services or other immediate needs. A long standing challenge, the lack of public meeting spaces negatively affected our community throughout the pandemic and needs to be addressed. For example, our entire community paraded through the school (which has to shut down for voting day) while the Select Board struggled with their limited meeting space that sits only 20 people in very tight quarters. The "Old Town Hall" at 10 East Side Road has been targeted as a property that could serve all needs, fulfilling a long time void in our community which has been further aggravated by the pandemic. In action is a plan to restore this building to bring it back to its sole purpose - a meeting place for the community. We have capital reserve funds and as well as a Moose Plate grant putting us within striking distance of our goal. This request would fulfill our needs to re-open this facility as a much-needed public resource, offering assistance to households in the Wentworth Community, allowing children to learn without interruption, and our local government to continue their business uninterrupted in the event of an emergency.