

**Select Board Meeting Minutes
Town of Wentworth
September 19, 2023**

Those present: Arnold Scheller, Rick Ducheneau, Brian DuBois, Chief Trott, Chief Ames, Izzy Mercier, and Erin Ganzel

- A. Scheller reported on the site inspection done in collaboration with FEMA pertaining to damages from the December 2023 storm. The East Side Rd bridge would require at least \$180,000 to put in a cistern wall, which would in turn increase the flow rate of the river and erosion. The two 18" culverts on North Dorchester Rd will become one 48" culvert.
- E. Ganzel provided an update on the paperwork process with FEMA. Categories A (Debris Removal), B (Emergency Efforts), and C (East Side Rd Bridge) will be removed from the current projects. Categories A and B do not meet the minimum cost threshold. Category C was removed at the suggestion of FEMA because it is unlikely the damages incurred from the storm on the East Side Rd bridge will be covered, as there has historically been NH DOT documented issues with the structure.
- A. Scheller stated the bridge will eventually be redlined to assist with state funding, which could take 10 to 15 years. He has been in contact with a representative from NH DOT that will assist with pushing the bridge as a priority due to it being a main emergency route.
- A. Scheller stated the Transfer Station will be closed on Saturday, September 30th so that the attendants can attend services for Randy Rugar. Notice has been posted at the dump and on the Facebook page.
- A. Scheller met with Tami Keyes, the Principal of Wentworth Elementary School, to deliver handmade hats and mittens for the students.
- B. DuBois reported the Transfer Station has been operating well. Paul Davis, Sr will be looking into what training is necessary to become the Principal Operator.
- Chief Ames stated he met with the Commercial Forest Ranger to receive the Burn Permit for the Transfer Station.
- A. Scheller reported that Linda Brownson requested a leave of absence from the Chairwoman of the Conservation Commission. Izzy Mercier will be appointed in her place during the leave.
- A. Scheller makes a motion to appoint Izzy Mercier as the Chairwoman during Linda Brownson's leave of absence from the Conservation Commission. Seconded by R. Ducheneau. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.**
- B. DuBois provided an update on the warrant article being written regarding the Town Forest walking trails. It will be posted for public comment for a period of 30 days.
- I. Mercier inquired if the Borger's had been made aware of the warrant article, to which B. DuBois replied they were in agreement with the verbiage.
- R. Ducheneau states he will work together with I. Mercier to organize the necessary ordinances.
- Chief Trott requested he be informed of the ordinances as they are worked through. Chief stated he met with the NH Fish and Game Department regarding hunting on the Town Forest. If there is not a resident or

dwelling within 300 feet, unless the forest is otherwise Posted by the Town, hunting is permitted in the Town Forest.

Chief Trott suggested a list of support for the warrant article be attached to it so others are informed as to who is aware and in agreement with the article.

B. DuBois stated he felt the last Conservation Commission meeting address everyone's concerns, specifically the larger concerns of abutters or other nearby landowners.

A. Scheller reported there has been no interest in the Town Moderator position. Steve Davis is hoping to have an assistant for the next year to shadow during a busy election year. Without a Town Moderator, it is possible the Town could shift to an SB2 town.

Chief Ames suggested speaking to Lee Morrison, who was previously a Town Moderator.

Chief Ames suggested reaching out to the Health Officer out of Rumney to gain an idea of what the position entails and perhaps he would be interested in assisting the Town. Chief states that Health Officers are essential when doing house inspections, especially rentals, amongst various other important tasks needed for the Town.

Chief Ames reports the new ambulances from WWAS are working much better.

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

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Chief Ames states the Fire Department is looking for more volunteers, as can be seen in the new ad posted on the Department's Facebook page.

A. Scheller discussed a complaint received regarding blind spots going around turns on East Side Rd. The Board discussed with the Highway Department ways to resolve this, including trimming where possible and pushing over knotweed.

Chief Trott reports the Road Agent marked out the new parking area for the Police Department alongside the Town Offices.

Chief Trott thanked Dylan Leonard and Adam Bullard for assisting him in raising the new flags at the Town Offices and Veterans Memorial.

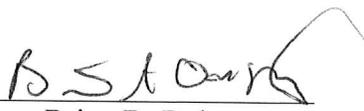
E. Ganzel requested the Select Board increase the insurance stipend from \$1750 to its previously allowed \$2000 to help assist in the rising costs of healthcare for employees.

R. Ducheneau makes a motion to increase the insurance stipend to its previously allowed amount of \$2000. Seconded by A. Scheller. All three voted in the affirmative, and the motion carried.

A. Scheller makes a motion to adjourn at 6:10pm. 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

(No Subject)

From: j&l redbones (jlredbones@yahoo.com)

To: jlredbones@yahoo.com

Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 11:20 AM EDT

Calls for service

8/11 motor vehicle accident Wentworth

8/14 mva Wentworth with DHART flight

8/22 motor vehicle fire with building exposure in warren mutual aid

8/26 Smoke investigation Eastside Rd illegal material being burnt in fire pit warning issued fire extinguished

8/27 Accidental gasoline sprayed on person while getting gas mutual aid Warren

9/3 Motor Vehicle accident in Wentworth

9/3 Trauma injury mutual aid to Piermont accident involving skateboard head trauma

9/7 Fire alarm activation lumber mill east side Rd Wentworth sprinkler issue

9/9 Smoke in the building mutual aid/automatic to Rumney was determined an issue with solar system

9/16 Multi car accident in Wentworth 4 patients 1 to go to hospital

9/17 Motorcycle accident in Wentworth DHART med flight brought in, patient succumbed to his injuries. Our condolences to his family and friends

Trainings

Standard in house training's on rescue tools for motor vehicle accident Truck operation

Self contained Breathing apparatus training Greenie group

Rural water supply training Upper Valley Regional Fire School

Jeffry Ames

Chief Wentworth Fire Department

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WPD Activity Report
Presented 09/19/2023

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 assisted New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services the Children, Youth and Families Division with information regarding a background investigation. Chief Trott forwarded what information was requested and no further action on our part was required.

The last few weekends, one of them being a long holiday weekend were busy ones. Chief Trott was on patrol at different times during those weekends, and conducted a total of four (4) OHRV details as well as two details at the racetrack, as well as handling other calls for service.

Two of those calls for service were welfare checks. Chief Trott conducted two welfare checks on Wentworth residents over the last couple of weeks and fortunately both turned out to be positive. Thank you to the family members and or residents who called and asked to have these residents checked on. This is a service we are more than willing to perform.

While conducting a speed patrol on Rte#25-A recently Chief Trott stopped an individual for a speeding violation. In checking Chief Trott found that the operator was also under suspension. The driver was issued a citation for speed and charged with operating after suspension and released on a hand summons for that offense.

For whatever reason there has been an uptick in domestic calls for service in Wentworth. The calls range from family domestic disturbances, some reportedly involving firearms, to orders of protection being served, or having been served, on residents of Wentworth. Domestic calls for service are the most dangerous calls for law enforcement and Wentworth unfortunately is not immune to them.

WPD

Chief Trott received a report from the Bureau of Elderly and Adult Services for the State of New Hampshire requesting a welfare check on an elderly Wentworth resident. The concern was that the resident may have been the target of a possible scam and may have lost some money in the process. Chief Trott spoke with resident in detail and determined that the transactions in question were legitimate ones and that the resident was aware of what she and her husband were doing with their finances. They did appreciate the police department checking on them and making sure they were not being scammed.

The Wentworth Elementary School (WES) has been open now for just over two weeks and has been operating fine with no issues. The yellow flashing light that was damaged a while back in an accident has been replaced and will be working soon. The power source just needs to be connected again and it will be up and operational.

An update on our two grants with the New Hampshire Department of Highway Safety, both grants have been completed and submitted to the A.G.'s office and we are now just awaiting approval. Just a reminder that one grant will help us with highway enforcement issues, ranging from speed patrols, hands free device patrols, DWI patrols, as well as some others. The other grant will cover new portable radar signs that we can utilize in more areas of Wentworth to help with speed enforcement and awareness.

