

TOWN OF WENTWORTH NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN
Minutes of Selectmen's Working Meeting of November 03, 2015

Present:
Also Present:

No Meeting was held.

Respectfully submitted by Catherine Stover

TOWN OF WENTWORTH NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN
Selectmen's Business Meeting of November 10, 2015

Present: Steve Davis, Chris Bassingthwaite, Pete Santom and Catherine Stover

Also Present: Chief Wally Trott, Janice Thompson, Kay Bailey, Ellie Murray, Francis Muzzey, Tonia Orlando, Palmer Koelb, Eric Merluzzi, Carly Merluzzi, Commissioner Martha Richards, Steve Welch, Tammy Letson (via speaker phone)

Steve motioned to open the meeting at 6:00 pm, seconded by Pete and approved. The Board reviewed the Agenda, and made no modifications.

Chief Wally Trott gave a police department status update. The new computer system is up and running, and the mobile data terminal is up and running in the cruiser. 3 radios are being reprogrammed to the new frequency by Grafton County, and they are now up and onboard. Steve asked how we are doing in regards to calls. Wally said ok. He has spent a lot of time at the school recently. Steve asked about the PD Facebook page. Chief Trott said he does not use it, and it will soon be disbanded due to the ability for the public to post at free will.

Steve Welch spoke with the Board regarding setting a date for the Town Meeting, which was voted and approved last year to be held on a day separate of voting day. Steve stated that it is up to the Board to select a date/time, and that it is his suggestion that it be held the Saturday following the voting, which on this year would be March 12. He said the school will have their meeting on March 5, and town voting would be on March 8. The Board discussed holding it the same day as the school meeting. Steve Welch said he has seen many meetings that range from a few hours long to many hours long, and feels that this would be a bad idea. After some additional discussion, Pete made a motion to have the Town Meeting Day be held the Saturday following the day of Town voting, which for 2016 would be March 12 at 1 pm, seconded by Chris and approved.

Steve Welch also discussed the subject of signs by the school. It is his recommendation that no signs be unattended at the school. Steve Davis asked about the signs on the side of the road. Steve Welch said the discussion was had, and becomes a finger pointing exercise, and historically it has been done, and he suggests/recommends they allow roadside signs to continue. Steve Davis asked about signs on the shoulder at the school. Steve Welch said they would probably need to speak with the state, and stated that the Board is welcome to pass an ordinance regarding the placement of roadside signs if they like. He also said the restriction of unattended signs also applies to any Town property, which would also include the Town Offices, Transfer Station, Library etc.

Palmer Koelb spoke with the Board about tree pruning. He said he has donated and planted trees to the Town and the school, and is disappointed to see them emasculated. Palmer said he was referring to the tree out front of the office that was badly pruned, as well as some trees at the school that were removed. Steve asked for clarification and asked if this was in reference to trees that were removed 15 yrs ago at the school for the stairs. Palmer said yes. Chris asked what he would like to see done. Palmer said hire experts, he stated that the town should hire the right people to do the job. Steve said he would look at the tree. Steve stated that he feels badly and respects Palmer's feelings about it and says that he appreciates his donation to the Town, and apologizes for the trimming.

Steve noted that Tonia Orlando, principal of Wentworth Elementary came to talk about the generator. Tonia stated that the pad has been laid and the generator should be in next week. She stated although they have through next September to finish the project, they will be done far ahead of that. She also discussed the window replacement project in the school last summer. They are not looking for major staff increase in the upcoming year. The bargaining unit is in negotiation process currently. Those are the big updates, she said parent conferences are happening soon, and a Thanksgiving meal is planned, all are welcome. She is also working with the 250 celebration group and said the variety show will be held at the school and hopes for good attendance.

Steve stated that the preliminary tax rate is \$22.47. The Board discussed the unreserved fund balance, and the Administrative Assistant offered to call the Town's auditor, Tammy Letson, of Crane & Bell for input. Tammy joined the meeting via speaker phone and discussed retaining percentages/amounts of the Town's unreserved fund balance to offset the tax rate. After discussion, Pete motioned to use \$150,000.00 of the UFB, seconded by Steve and approved. The tax rate will be \$20.91.

Commission Martha Richards was in attendance to give a Grafton County update. She was happy to see new young people on the Board, and thanked the Board for having her. She introduced herself to the Board and audience and stated that she is an elected official every 2 years. This coming year is another big year. Several departments such as the nursing home, have recently undergone a big fire safety renovation. Several residents had to move during the renovation, they have about 135 residents. She is very proud of what they do, they have the largest employee staff at nursing home, about 200, and received awards. They are very dedicated and hard working. The residents eat a lot of the food that is grown there on the farm. Revenues will be down for part of the year due to the renovation.

The county prison, a new facility built 3 yrs ago, has about 100-120 inmates held there. They have a new Superintendent, Tom Elliott. The new jail is open for tours. They have many programs. Trusted inmates participate in various towns to do labor, which is free to the town. Steve asked who the contact would be. She said either herself or Tom Elliott. She stated there are a variety of things they can do. The inmates also work on their farm, they are the last farm with a dairy herd. They also have pigs and chickens – the eggs are used at Department of correction and the nursing home. The grown vegetables are frozen for us, she said they had a very good potato crop this year, and the potatoes are given free to local programs/charities. They also did a logging project. She also spoke of the drug crisis faced in NH and the Northern Pass project which she is very opposed to. She thanked the Board for having her and left contact cards and some brochures.

Steve stated that the Town has received a MOA from the DOT regarding the Village Bridge. The Board requested that the Administrative Assistant contact DOT and request them to attend a Selectmen's meeting to discuss the matter.

The Board scheduled Department Budget Workshops on Saturday, December 12 beginning at 12:30 pm.

Privilege of the Floor-

Janice Thompson asked if some of the Town Hall Capital Reserve funds could be used on the old Town hall for bringing in water and a bathroom. The Board discussed running water from the Historical Society and would like this item to be placed on the agenda under the New Business.

Francis Muzzey said questioned why the Town needs 3 highway employees and said he doesn't feel we need 3. He also said he is not in favor of the \$2.00 minimum fee for the disposing C&D. He stated that he won't be putting in anything in the C&D, instead he'll dispose of it in the household compactor.

Carly Merluzzi, a Plymouth High school student was in attendance as a part of her civics classed and asked the Board a few questions such as how long the members have been on board, what their function is etc.

The Board stated there will be no Working Meeting next week, on November 17.

The Board reviewed and/or signed the following:

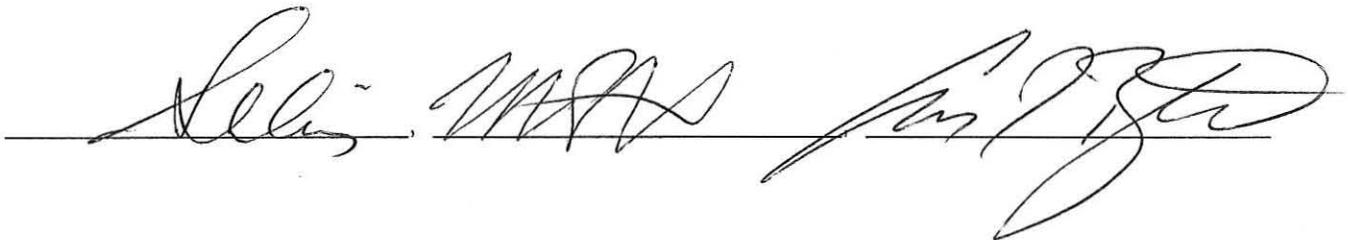
Payroll and Vendor payments
Meeting Minutes of Oct 27, 2015
2015 Preliminary Tax Rate
Intent of Cut for Comeau, ML 13-08-01 & Hutchins, ML 13-4-7
Report of Cut for Stuart, ML 08-11-22 & 23

Steve motioned to go into a Non-Public Meeting at 7:40 pm, per 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 the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to 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. The motion was seconded by Pete and approved. Pete motioned to come out of the meeting at 8:20 pm, seconded by Chris and approved.

No decisions were made in the Non-Public meeting.

Steve motioned to adjourn the meeting 8:20 pm, seconded by Pete and approved.

Respectfully submitted by Catherine Stover
Minutes accepted by

Three handwritten signatures are written across a horizontal line. The signatures are cursive and appear to be 'Catherine Stover', 'Pete', and 'Chris'.

TOWN OF WENTWORTH NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN
Non- Public Minutes (1) of November 10, 2015 Meeting

Present: Pete Santom, Chris Bassingthwaite, Steve Davis and Catherine Stover

Also Present: Vickie and Custer Reed

Non-Public Meeting 1

Steve motioned to go into a Non-Public Meeting at 7:40 pm, per 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 the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to 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. The motion was seconded by Pete and approved.

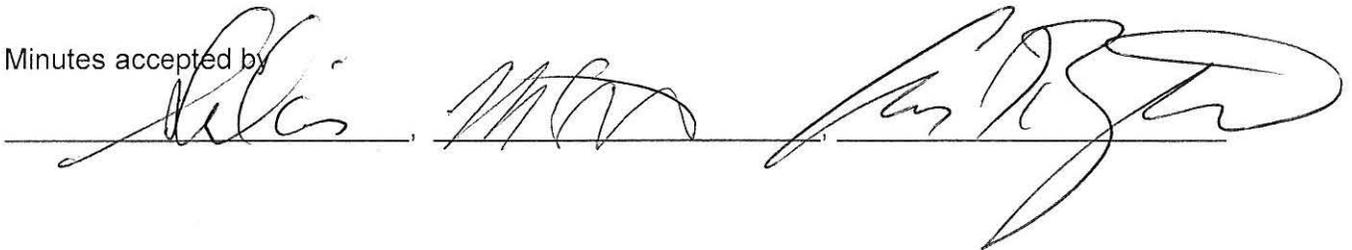
The Reeds discussed property previously owned by them that was taken by Deed in May 2012. Mr. Reed asserted that he was unaware that the property had been taken by the Town despite notices that were sent, and alleges that he made a cash payment in October 2012 in the amount of \$60.00. The Town shows no record of payment, nor does Mr. Reed have a receipt that reflects this payment.

No decisions were made.

Pete motioned to come out of the meeting at 8:20 pm, seconded by Chris and approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Stover

Minutes accepted by

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TOWN OF WENTWORTH NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN
Minutes of Selectmen's Working Meeting of November 17, 2015

Present:
Also Present:

No Meeting was held.

Respectfully submitted by Catherine Stover

TOWN OF WENTWORTH NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN
Selectmen's Business Meeting of November 24, 2015

Present: Steve Davis, Chris Bassingthwaite, Pete Santom and Catherine Stover

Also Present: Chief Wally Trott, David Scott, Jason Tremblay, Janice Thompson, Kay Bailey, Ellie Murray, Paula Davis, Francis Muzzey

Steve motioned to open the meeting at 6:00 pm, seconded by Chris and approved. The Board reviewed the Agenda, and made no modifications.

Steve motioned to go into a Non-Public Meeting, per RSA 91-A:3, II(d) – Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community at 6:01 pm, seconded by Chris and approved. The Board met in the Selectmen's office. Motion by Pete to come out of the meeting at 6:06 pm, seconded by Chris and approved.

Chief Trott, was in attendance and stated there was no new status update. He requested a Non-Public meeting later on the agenda, per 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 the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. The Board agreed to have a meeting with him.

David Scott and Jason Tremblay, from the DOT, Bureau of Bridge Design were in attendance to discuss the MOA regarding the Village Bridge. Steve said he feels the MOA is incomplete as it does not speak of a replacement bridge. Jason stated that it was their understanding that the Friends of the Bridge had acquired a replacement. Steve stated it is the Town's understanding that in the meantime, the DOT would be placing a walking bridge, as the Goff's Mill Bridge would not be ready to put in place for a couple of years. Jason said they do have the funds to tear down and place abutments. Steve encouraged them to look at past notes that referred to a discussion regarding a pedestrian bridge to be put in place. Jason said Bill Cass had reviewed this, but did not mention the replacement bridge, but he will look into it. Jason asked what other items are needed to be addressed. Steve mentioned the take over the roads, but said the DOT is not in a position to do so yet. Jason said they are hoping to have the Town's approval to move forward with the removal and placement of abutments. Steve said the Board can sign it, but needs clarification of whether DOT will be supplying a temporary bridge in the interim. Jason said they will look into it and get back to the Town. Steve asked Pete and Chris if he had the Board's approval to sign the MOA when the issue of the temporary replacement bridge has been addressed. Both Pete and Chris agreed to this. Francis raised his hand to speak, and Steve stated they were not taking any public comment/input at the time. Francis continued to speak, and Steve cautioned him that the Board was not allowing public comment/input and if he continued, he would be asked to step out. DOT thanked the Board, and the Board thanked them for attending and discussion, and DOT left the meeting.

Privilege of the Floor. The Board opened the floor to the public. Janice Thompson inquired about the subject of repairs to the old Town Hall. She stated that there is a survey in the map drawer that shows what property the Town owns. The Administrative Assistant offered to assist in unlocking the map drawers for their review during business hours.

The Board reviewed and signed the following documents:

Payroll and Vendor payments
Meeting Minutes of Nov 10, 2015
Approval for Avitar to submit preliminary sales ratio to the DRA
Timber Warrant for Savage, ML 04-02-08

The Board discussed whether to hold a Working Meeting next week on December 1 and decided no meeting will held.

Steve motioned to go into a Non-Public Meeting, at 6:45 pm, per 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 the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting, seconded by Chris and approved. The Board discussed a security issue. Steve motioned to come out of the meeting at 6:57 pm, seconded by Pete and approved.

Steve Davis left the meeting.

Chris motioned to go into a Non-Public Meeting, at 7:03 pm, per 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 the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting, seconded by Pete and approved. The Board met with Custer and Vickie Reed and discussed the property formerly owned by them. Chris motioned to close the Non-Public meeting 7:20 pm, seconded by Pete and approved.

Chris motioned to adjourn the public meeting 7:20 pm, seconded by Pete and approved.

Respectfully submitted by Catherine Stover

Minutes accepted by

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TOWN OF WENTWORTH NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN
Non- Public Minutes (1) of November 24, 2015 Meeting

Present: Pete Santom, Chris Bassingthwaite, Steve Davis and Catherine Stover

Non-Public Meeting 1

Steve motioned to go into a Non-Public Meeting, per RSA 91-A:3, II(d) – Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community at 6:01 pm, seconded by Chris and approved.

The Board met in the Selectmen's office to discuss the proposed MOA. No decisions were made.

Motion by Pete to come out of the meeting at 6:06 pm, seconded by Chris and approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Stover

Minutes accepted by

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TOWN OF WENTWORTH NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN
Non- Public Minutes (2) of November 24, 2015 Meeting

Present: Pete Santom, Chris Bassingthwaite, Steve Davis and Catherine Stover

Also Present: Chief Wally Trott

Non-Public Meeting 2

Steve motioned to go into a Non-Public Meeting, at 6:45 pm, per 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 the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting, seconded by Chris and approved.

The Board discussed with Chief Trott a security issue regarding a Town owned property. The Board agreed to take steps to place a no trespassing notification on the property and to secure it for liability purposes.

Steve motioned to come out of the meeting at 6:57 pm, seconded by Pete and approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Stover

Minutes accepted by

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TOWN OF WENTWORTH NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN
Non- Public Minutes (3) of November 24, 2015 Meeting

Present: Pete Santom, Chris Bassingthwaite and Catherine Stover

Also Present: Vickie and Custer Reed

Non-Public Meeting 3

Chris motioned to go into a Non-Public Meeting, at 7:03 pm, per 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 the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting, seconded by Pete and approved.

The Board met with Custer and Vickie Reed and discussed the property formerly owned by the Reeds. The Board stated their previous position; that the property will be offered for sale to the public. No decisions were made.

Chris motioned to close the Non-Public meeting 7:20 pm, seconded by Pete and approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Stover

Minutes accepted by

Three handwritten signatures are written over a horizontal line. The signatures are in cursive and appear to be those of the attendees mentioned in the minutes.