

TOWN OF WENTWORTH NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN
Selectmen's Business Meeting
of April 11, 2017

Present: Chris Bassingthwaite, Pete Santom, Ray Youngs, and Arlene Patten

Also Present: Chief Trott, Ellie Murray, Sharon Sanborn, Palmer Koelb, Francis Muzzey, Kay Bailey, Janice Thompson, Glenn Campbell, Craig Pasco, George Morrill, Kevin Gilbert.

The Board held this Business Meeting at the Wentworth Elementary School. They reviewed the Agenda and approved.

Chris motioned to open the meeting at 5:12 pm, seconded by Ray and approved.

Selectmen reviewed and/or signed the following:

- Vendor & Payroll Checks
- MS123 – Report of Town/City/Village Officials
- MS232 – Report of Appropriations
- MS60A - NH Dept. of Revenue Admin.
- Forest Management Agreement-Jordan King
- (2) Yield Tax on Timber
- Request of extension on Intent to Cut – Morrison
- Abatement LaPointe

The Board welcomed Chief Trott for a status update. The Chief said He and the Road Agent had been out checking on the roads and things look good, and repairs are being done. The road crew has been out cold patching. The Road Agent questioned The Board about whether or not they would like to re-consider 8/10 Buffalo Rd. & 3/10 of Lookaway Ln. for the upcoming season, whereas He feels they are losing ground, but stating it's not as bad as East Side Road yet. The question was, should they focus on Buffalo Rd before it ends up like East Side or remain with the focus on paving East Side Road as agreed and stated back in the fall of 2016. The Selectmen agreed to keeping East Side Road the focus as that's the plan already in place.

George Morrill mentioned to The Board that the Plummer Lot has (3) abutters that have encroached upon the boundaries of the lot, and questioned if the Trustees could use the Town's Legal to draft a letter to send to the abutters, stating they had like 3 months to correct. Some residents asked if it needed to be done that way or if they could just call or pay a visit to the abutters and address it face to face. The Select Board member Ray, offered to go with George to speak with the individuals owners who had done the encroachments. George offered to take info back to the Trustees to discuss and would report back what the plans were moving forwards.

Craig Pasco addressed the Chief and Road Agent about posting more "Slow Down" signs in the area of Buffalo/Turner Roadways. The Road Agent agreed to investigate and post signs if needed.

Francis Muzzey, Board Member of WWAS. He gave a brief update on the Warren/Wentworth Ambulance Service finances. Mr. Muzzey also stated there had been some NEW changes to employment at the station and Steve Czarnecki was no longer in charge. They also hired two new paramedics. Overall, He said things are starting to look up for the Service.

Chris motioned to go into a Non-Public @ 5:45 and The Board moved to a private location at the school, using a classroom down the hallway from the gym.

Non-Public Meeting #1

At 5:47 pm, Chris motioned to go into a Non-Public Meeting - 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 Ray and approved. Kay Bailey & Sharon Sanborn / Personal Matter. The Board discussed with the Trustees their findings. The Board stated that they do not need to entertain or provide Free Council to the Trustees of the Library. The Board said they would like to see the Trustees move forward with no more issues. Chris motioned to come out of the Non-Public at 6:07 pm, seconded by Pete and approved.

ATV/OHRV Meeting: 75+ members/Residents in attendance. The Board returned to the WES gymnasium for the ATV/OHRV meeting.

Some names were captured, on the sign in sheet, others chose not. Those who spoke or shared information were; Chief Trott, John Meade, Craig Pasco, Francis Muzzey, Palmer Koelb, Ellie Murray, Richard Borger, Terry DeCotis, Wayne DeCotis, Patti Welch, Bob Green, Quentin Mack, Carol Friedrich, Noel King, Chris Gamache, Caleb Dobbins. (My apologies if any names were missed - not all comments were captured).

The anticipation and chatter filled the rafters until the meeting was called to order. There were some late arrivals that delayed the meeting.

At 6:35 Chris motioned to bring the Meeting to order.

Ground rules were set, by the Chief of Police Wallace Trott, and everyone was asked to be cordial, diplomatic and respectful. Police Officer & Sheriff, Peter Chierichetti was also present.

The Board began the meeting by stating a couple of facts...

- All questions, comments and discussions, must be directed to them.
- The Board stated in the beginning, "**No Decisions will be made today**".
- The Board will not entertain any discussion about the South end of Town.
- This meeting is strictly an informational, and The Board will gather the necessary info. to make a reasonable decision, on the ATV trail.
- This section of corridor is behind the state shed, on the Railroad bed.
- The gathered information presented tonight will help the Board make it's decision as to whether or not they keep ATV's off of East Side and Red Oak Hill Roadways, and open the corridor behind the State Shed.

Quentin Mack spoke and reminded the town's people of the meeting held in 2008. He asked the audience if they wanted ATV usage in Wentworth on Town roads. He went on to say it was unanimous, the answer was no, and not to be addressed in the future. However, here they are with same questions, he said.

A Resident, had asked the Selectmen why they wanted to mirror the neighboring town of Warren where the ATV club is active and established. The Selectmen answered with, they were not trying

to mirror another town, in fact this meeting isn't about opening any roads, it's about a piece of the rail bed behind the state shed off of East Side Road.

An ATV club member, spoke about the club purchasing an ATV, through a grant for the Code Enforcement Officer, to police the trails. Hopefully this would allow a decrease in damage to property, both private and Town owned. These club members do have a good relationship with private property owners who allow trail usage, and would like to keep it that way.

A Town resident had asked a Club member if there was a bigger plan and the answer was yes, but unsure of what that will be, at this time. The DOT spokesperson cautioned the residents of the impact ATV's could have on the Town. He said, once a trail is established it's difficult to modify or undo it.

The Board was asked by a resident with the given information thus far, what would be their decision? The Board replied that all information would be considered and no decisions will be made today. Another resident stated they felt the Board had reached a decision. No further comment was made.

Many residents felt this Public Meeting was poorly advertised. Some residents had comments such as an email system would be a way, more posters, or even postal mailings to each resident. The Board listened to these comments and took note. The Administrative Assistant will look into this for future meetings.

A Resident questioned the Trail Bureau Rep for his input and thought about this. He grinned, and snickered saying, he would wait for the Selectmen's decision, that they were a tough crowd.

A thought was left in closing for The Board of Selectmen, in making their decision, to please remember how unique the Town of Wentworth is and how the residents wish to keep it quaint and postcard perfect.

Then The Board was asked to remember why they moved their young families here, in the first place. They were asked to consider in their decision, ways to increase peace and bring value to the culture and properties of Wentworth.

Overall, the meeting went very well. The Board agreed to bring their decision to the public at the April 25th Business Meeting.

Chris motioned to adjourn at 8:20 pm and seconded by Pete and approved.

Respectfully Submitted by Arlene Patten

Minutes accepted by:

