

TOWN OF WENTWORTH NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE SELECTMEN
Selectmen's Business Meeting
December 5, 2017

Present: Chris Bassingthwaite, Ray Youngs, Tracy Currier and Deborah Vlk

Also Present: Janice Thompson, Kay Bailey, Kevin Gilbert, Morgan Currier,
Sharon Sanborn, Michael & Christine Santom, Francis Muzzey, George Morrill, Jeff
Ames, Kathleen Springham-Mack, Mr & Mrs Comstellar

Chris motioned to open the meeting at 6:01 pm, seconded by Tracy and approved.

Selectmen reviewed and/or signed the following:

- Payroll & Vendor Checks
- Employee Applications
- BOS minutes of 11/21/17
- McKibben Environmental Form
- Resident Letter Complaint-Patricia Whiteneck
- Oaths of Office Forms
- Avitar Associates-Preliminary 2017 Assessment & Equalization Sales Report
- Avitar Associates-Mapping Contract Form
- Yield Tax Levies-17-475-03 & 17-475-09
- Dept of Transportation Letter-Wentworth Village Rd/East Side Rd
- NH Electric Co-Op Forms
- Pemi-Baker Solid Waste Appointees Form
- Executive Council – Notice of Public Meeting
- Privilege of the Floor Rules (Backside of Agenda)

Chris stated that the Budget process will start on Dec 12th. Please look over your budget items and please note that there will not be any FEMA items listed on your reports.

Chief Trott was not present at the meeting.

Chris stated that Arlene Patten will be out for two weeks on sick leave and Deb Vlk will be tending the office in her absence.

Kevin Gilbert, Road Agent gave a status update on the roads and bridges. He stated that the roads are well sanded from recent weather. They've been working on Rowentown Rd to build up the slopping sides with gravel in the ¼ mile stretch. Pot holes have been filled in on all roads and equipment is ready for winter.

Glenn Campbell was not present at the meeting.

Chris stated that the Wentworth School Budget Hearings have started. They are under budget so far for the 2018 year. The next school hearing will be.

Ray read a letter from the Executive Council of a meeting that was just held on Dec 4th in Portsmouth. The purpose of the meeting is to receive public comments/testimony on the toll

proposal for the NH Turnpike Improvements for 2019-2028 Ten Year Plan. The toll proposal can be found on the Department's Ten Year Plan Web Page at:

<https://www.nh.gov/dot/org/projectdevelopment/planning/typ/documents/GACITToIIncreaseProposal.pdf>

Written comments can also be submitted by letter or email to:

William E. Watson, P.E. - Bill.Watson@dot.nh.gov

Bureau of Planning & Community Assistance

NH Dept of Trans.

John O. Morton Bldg – 7 Hazen Dr.

PO Box 483 – Concord, NH 03302-0483

Ray read a letter from McKibben Environmental, LLC requesting ground samples for Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) to be done in Nov at our landfill at the transfer station. Palmer suggested that since this sampling has been done for years with no significant change, we should stop. Ray will call them for further information and the request will be tabled waiting for details to report back to the Board.

Chris stated that the transfer station will be closed the Sunday before Christmas, Dec 24th. A sign is posted indicating this closure.

Chris stated that on Dec 7th our flag will be at flown half-mast in remembrance of Pearl Harbor Day.

Ray read a letter from Avitar Associates reporting the preliminary 2017 assessment to sales ration analysis and associated Equalization Sales Report for the Town of Wentworth. The Board reviewed the report and signed the certificate.

Kevin stated that since the recent flooding, the town needs to look into dredging certain parts of the river banks. There is a permit needed from the State through Paul Hatch. The town of Warren recently submitted their permit and Ray will contact the road agent for further details.

Chris stated there was a letter from a resident outlining damage to their property from the recent flooding in Oct looking for assistance from the town. At this time the only assistance is through State and Local Governments for recovery monies. The Board will respond with a letter providing state contact information.

Chris stated a letter from the DOT officially reclassifying Wentworth Village Rd (from Rt 25 to the intersection with East Side Rd-.22 miles) and East Side Rd (from Rt 25 to the old railroad crossing-.21 miles) are being reclassified from a Class II State Highway to a Class V Town Road as described under RSA 229:5. Francis stated that the map enclosed with the letter should be included in the document folders for each road.

Kay Bailey stated that there has been an issue with cars being parked in the Library handicap access. Kevin Gilbert will provide and put up a Handicap sign.

The Board extended an invitation to Privilege of the Floor at 7:05PM:

Randy Comstellar presented to the Board a petition requesting a warrant article at the 2018 town meeting. Chris read the following warrant article request: "Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 32:5-b, and implement a tax cap whereby the governing body (or budget committee) shall not submit a recommended budget that increases the amount to be raised by local taxes, based on the prior fiscal year's actual amount of local taxes raised, by more than 1%."

Trustees of the Trust Fund again was a topic of much discussion. Kay Bailey asked if the Trustees had hired a financial advisor. George Morrill stated "no", as the Trustees would have to provide a warrant article asking for the town's approval. The Board has asked the Trustees be present at the next meeting on Dec 12th and to provide recent statements on their accounts.

Janice Thompson asked the Board if there had been a septic system approval submitted as there had been test pits done on land on the corner of Rt 25 and Rt 25A. The Board has not received any submitted forms for this site.

George Morrill asked if the BOS had signed the form for the new representative-Glenn Campbell & alternate representative-George Morrill, to the Pemi-Baker Solid Waste District and they had.

Chris motioned to adjourn at 7:40PM and move to go a Non-Public session and seconded by Tracy and approved.

Non-Public Meeting #1

At 7:43PM, Chris motioned to go into a Non-Public, seconded by Tracy - **RSA 91-A:3, II(b)** – The hiring of any person as a public employee. Chris motioned to close the Non-Public at 8:01pm and to go into Non-Public Meeting #2 at 8:03pm, seconded by Tracy.

Non-Public Meeting #2

At 8:03PM, Chris motioned to go into a Non-Public, seconded by Tracy - **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. Personnel issue. Chris motioned to close the Non-Public at 8:22PM, seconded and approved by Tracy.

Respectfully Submitted by Deborah Vlk

Minutes accepted by:


