

State of New Hampshire
Town of Wentworth

Town Meeting Minutes for 2008

To the inhabitants of the Town of Wentworth, in Grafton County, in the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified that the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Wentworth, New Hampshire will be held at the Wentworth Elementary School, 1247 Mt Moosilauke Hwy, Route 25, Wentworth on March 11, 2008, at 11:00 AM to act upon the following subjects:

The polls will open at 11 AM and close at 7 PM to vote on Article 1 (the election of Town Officers). All other articles will be presented, discussed, and acted upon beginning at 7 PM.

1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year. (By Official Ballot)

2. To receive reports from the Selectmen, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Treasurer, Auditors, and other Town Officers; and to vote on any motion relating to these reports.

Motion to accept article as read by John Millican, seconded by Randy Morrison.

Article passed by voice vote

3. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Town highway building fund capital reserve #7 that had all the funds withdrawn at the 1997 March Town Meeting.

Motion to accept as read by Palmer Koelb, seconded by John Millican

Article passed by voice vote

4. Do you favor the Wentworth and Warren School Boards continuing in their efforts? to combine the resources of the two schools in an effort to save money and improve education in our communities? (We currently have a two-year agreement to share resources.)

Motion to accept article by John Millican, seconded by Paul Davis, Sr.

The voters were in agreement to continue working with the Warren School Board.

Voice vote was in the affirmative

5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$305,370 for general municipal operations for the purposes detailed in the operating budget posted with the warrant. This article does not include any amounts contained in any other article. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required).

Motion to accept article by John Millican, seconded by Francis Muzzey

1st Amendment; I move that the line item 4151.01 in the operating budget for compensation to the town clerk-tax collector be changed to \$ 12,500 which is based on the number of hours that it is estimated that the town clerk-tax collector will work during the year (1040) I multiplied by the hourly rate of "\$12.00", and further to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$292,870 for general municipal operations for the purpose detailed in the operating budget posted with the warrant; of this total \$11,800 is to be transferred from fund balance (surplus), and the remaining \$281,079 is to be raised by 2008 taxation,

This article does not include any amounts contained in any other article. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

After much discussion, a move to vote was given by John Millican, seconded by Palmer Koelb,

Hand count: yes 2, no 98 % or (majority of voters)

Amendment was defeated

2nd Amendment; made by Steve Davis, seconded by Ray Welch
I move that line item 4130.02 concerning selectmen's wages be reduced from \$6600 to \$ 3300, because they now meet every other week.

Article was withdrawn by Steve Davis and Ray Welch

3rd Amendment ; To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$280, 000 for the general municipal operations for the purpose detailed in the operating budget proposed within this article. With \$100,000 to come from surplus funds and the remaining \$182,000 to come from general 2008 taxes. This article does not include any amounts

This amount is a \$105,070 savings for the people of Wentworth over what the selectmen requested.

Amendment made by Tim Minear, seconded by Kate Rick

After discussion, a move to vote requested by Lee Morrison, seconded by Paul Davis, Sr. Voice vote; amendment was defeated

Move to vote on original article as read by Francis Muzzey, Seconded by Fremont Swain
Yes – 70 No – 8 Original article was passed

6, To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 8,955 for the following Health Agencies and Organizations: The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

American Red Cross (provides help for emergencies & disaster relief)	\$ 300
Mt Moosilauke Health Center (provides healthcare & counseling)	\$2,500
Voices Against Violence (service & education for domestic & sexual violence)	\$ 650
Tri-County CAP (fuel assistance, food, electrical & referral assistance)	\$1,650
Visiting Nurse Alliance of NH/VT (Homecare, Hospice & Family Health)	\$1,733
Pemi-Baker Home Health Care (Homecare, Hospice & Family Health)	\$1,060
Grafton County Senior Citizens (meals, transportation & day service)	\$1,062

Motion to accept article as read; Randy Morrison, seconded by Tim Minear

Amendment to article; To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 9455.00 for the following Health Agencies and Organizations; The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. This would include \$ 500 for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)

Motion made by Palmer Koelb, seconded by Joshua Leiter

Voice Vote – amendment passed

Original article with amended increase was passed by voice vote.

7.To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,600 to be expended by the Planning Board in connection with its activities for such purposes and such uses as deemed necessary by the Planning Board. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

Motion to accept as read Francis Muzzey. Seconded by John Millican

Voice Vote; Article passed

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8.To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$36,200 for the maintenance of the Fire Department. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation

. Motion to accept as read by Steve Davis, seconded by John Millican

Voice Vote – article passed

9.To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$188,616 for Town highways and lighting for the ensuing year; of this total, \$34,600 is to be transferred from fund balance (surplus), and the remaining \$154,016 is to be raised by 2008 taxation. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

Motion made to accept article as read by John Millican, seconded by Tim Minear

Amendment to article; To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 230,616 for town highways and lighting, of which this total \$ 34,600 to be transferred from fund balance(surplus) and the remaining \$196,016 to be raised by 2008 taxation, with \$42,000 being specified for 1 full time employee, Of which #30,000 for that employee salary and the remaining

\$12,000 for associated costs.

Motion made by Paul E. Davis, Jr, seconded by Ray Welch

Voice Vote – amendment passed

Move to vote on amended article as read; John Millican, seconded by Tim Minear

Voice Vote – amended article passed

10.To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,200 for the upkeep and maintenance of the Wentworth Historical Society Museum (Boston & Maine Railroad Depot) and T he grounds on which it is situated. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

Motion to accept article as read by Richard Burne, seconded by Richard Borger,Sr.

Voice Vote-motion passed

11.To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$161,500 to be placed into the f following Expendable Trust Funds and Capital Reserve Funds: The Selectmen recommend this s appropriation.

- Fire Truck (est. 1984) \$15,000
- Police Cruiser (est. 1993) \$ 2,500
- Ambulance (est. 1996) \$ 1,500
- Road Paving (est. 2002) \$10,000
- Hwy Equipment & Vehicle (est. 1973) \$15,000
- Town Hall Repairs/ Maintenance (est. 2000) \$10,000
- Town Bridges (est 1988) \$10,000
- Fire Dept Site (est 2004) \$ 7,500
- Town Hall Expendable Trust (est 2005) \$15,000
- Bridge Expendable Trust (est. 2006) \$75,000

Motion to accept motion as read by John Millican, seconded by Randy Morrison

Voice Vote- Passed

12.To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the total sum of \$67,245 to pay for the disposal and hauling of solid waste using the Town Transfer Facility; of that total, \$3,500 is to come from unreserved fund balance, with the remaining sum of \$63,745 to come from general 2008 taxation. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

Motion to accept article as read by John Millican, seconded by Randy Morrison

Voice Vote -passed

13. To see if the Town will vote to establish a Transfer Station Recycling Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a for the purpose of purchasing items and equipment to recycle material and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be placed in this fund, and to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend this fund. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

Motion to accept as read by John Millican, seconded by Randy Morrison

Voice Vote-passed

14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$600 to be expended by the Conservation Commission in connection with its activities for such purposes and such uses as deemed necessary by the Conservation Commission. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

Motion to accept article as read by Palmer Koelb, seconded by John Millican

Voice Vote-passed

15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$64,820 for the maintenance of the Police Department. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

Motion to accept article as read by Kevin Kay seconded by Roland Chierichette

Amendment to article: To see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,410 for the maintenance of the Police Department by Tim Minear, seconded by Francis Muzzey

Voice vote on amendment defeated

Motion to move original article by Lee Morrison, seconded by Joshua Leiter

Voice Vote -passed

16. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$32,000 for the purpose of a new Police cruiser. Of this amount \$4,000 is expected in revenue from the trade-in on the 2001 cruiser, \$28,000 is authorized to be withdrawn from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund, and the balance of \$0 are to be raised from taxes. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

Motion to accept article as read by John Millican, seconded by Kevin Kay

Voice Vote - passed

17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 for the cost and expenses associated with pest and animal control. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

Motion to accept article as read by John Millican, seconded by Palmer Koelb

Voice Voter - passed

18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,000 for operating expenses for the Warren/Wentworth Ambulance Service.

Note: This amount represents a \$2,000 increase over last year.

Amendment to article; to add \$500 to article to bring total of article to \$11,500 by Paul Davis, Sr.
Seconded by Patti Welch,

Motion to vote on amended article by Penny Davis, seconded by Arnold Evans

Voice Vote – passed amended article

19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,130 for the Parks and Recreation Commission for the maintenance of parks, including the Common, Library, Riverside Park, and Hamilton Memorial Field. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

Motion made to accept article as read by Palmer Koelb, seconded by John Millican

Voice Vote-passed

20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$47,643 for the Webster Memorial Library expenses. \$10,711 to come from Library income with the remaining sum of \$36,932 to come from general 2008 taxation.

Motion to accept article as read by Charles Stata, seconded by Joshua Leiter

21.” For no new taxes perpetuate higher and higher property taxes. We call on our State Representatives, our State Senator and our Governor to reject the “Pledge”, have an open discussion covering all options, and adopt a revenue system that lowers property taxes while striving to reduce spending .”

Motion was made to table this article by Charles Stata seconded by Joshua Leiter

Needed 2/3 majority to table per Moderator

Yes – 43

No-10

22. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

“Resolution to request the Selectmen saves no more than 20 percent of the unreserved fund balance for

The purpose of tax reduction” made by Steve Davis, Seconded by Tim Minear

Resolution failed by voice vote

“Resolution to have Selectmen go back to weekly meetings. Made by Francis Muzzey, seconded by Paul Davis Jr

Resolution passed by Voice vote

“ Resolution to raise the wages for Gene Garrrett by \$ 1.00 per hour more than the raise of \$.50 already written into the budget.”

Made by Francis Muzzey and seconded by Tim Minear.

Resolution was passed by voice vote

Motion was made by Paul Davis Sr. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Palmer Koelb.

Motion passed by Voice Vote.

The 2008 Wentworth Town Meeting was adjourned by Moderator Steve Welch at 11:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted;

Mary Davis

Tax Collector, Town Clerk
Wentworth, N.H . 03282

April 1, 2008