

State of New Hampshire
Town of Wentworth

Warrant for year 2011 Town Meeting

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 NH on March 8, 2011.

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.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Moderator Stephen Welch

Moderator Stephen Welch read a letter, written by the Library Board of Trustees, thanking outgoing Trustee Donna Herlihy for her seven years of commitment and service. There was a round of applause.

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

March 8, 2011 brought out 185 voters with 6 absentee voters

The following were elected:

Selectman	3 Year Term	Francis Muzzey	99
Library Trustee	3 Year Term	Helen L. Ray	175
Town Trustee	3 Year Term	Charles M. Stata III	147
Planning Board	3 Year Term	Eleanor Murray	125
		Quentin P. Mack	129
Fire Commissioner	1 Year Term	Kevin M. Kay	147
		Pete Chierichette	125
		Jeffry Ames	53

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 by Angela Comeau
Seconded by Brian Dubois**

Passed by voice vote

3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$13,000**, for the purpose of conducting a statistical revaluation, of which \$13,000 will be

withdrawn from **Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund**, resulting in no cost from the general 2011 taxation.

**Motion to accept by Randy Morrison
Seconded by Palmer Koelb**

**Article Amended to the sum of \$37,000.00
Motion to accept by Stephen Davis
Seconded by Francis Muzzey**

Amended Article Passed by voice vote

4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$296,745** 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. (Majority vote required).

**Motion to accept by Stephen Davis
Seconded by Randy Morrison**

**Article Amended to the sum \$283,745.00
Motion to accept amended article by Stephen Davis
Seconded by Francis Muzzey**

Amended Article Passed by voice vote

5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$9,693** for the following Health Agencies and Organizations:

Mt. Moosilauke Health Center (provides healthcare & counseling)	\$2500
Visiting Nurse Alliance of NH/VT (homecare, hospice & family health)	\$1733
Tri-County CAP (fuel assistance, food, electrical & referral assistance)	\$1650
Pemi-Baker Home Health Care (homecare, hospice & family health)	\$1060
Grafton County Senior Citizens (meals, transportation & day service)	\$800
Voices Against Violence (service & education for domestic & sexual violence)	\$650
CASA (court appointed special advocates for children)	\$500
CADY (communities for alcohol and drug free youth) school and community	\$500
American Red Cross (provides help for emergencies & disaster relief)	\$300

**Motion to accept by Stephen Davis
Seconded by Kevin Kay**

Passed by voice vote

6. 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.

Motion to accept by Randy Morrison
Seconded by Paul Davis Jr.

Passed by show of hands

7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$29,000** for the maintenance of the **Fire Department** for the ensuing year.

Motion to accept by Jeffry Ames
Seconded by Claudia Anderson

Passed by voice vote

8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$189,650** for **Town Highways**, bridges and lighting for the ensuing year.

Motion to accept by Raymond Welch
Seconded by Tim Minear

Article amended to read: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate \$219,650.00 for town highways, bridges and lighting, of which \$30,000.00 will come from the unexpended fund balance and \$189,650.00 to come from general taxation.

Motion to accept amended article by Randy Morrison
Seconded by Francis Muzzey

Passed by voice vote

9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$450** to be expended by the **Trustees of the Trust** Fund for expenses related to attending conferences and training as deemed necessary by the Trustees.

Motion to accept by Donna King
Seconded by Randy Morrison

Passed by voice vote

10. To see if the town will vote to replace the current standard **Veterans tax credit** of \$50.00 in its entirety with the Optional Veteran's Tax credit with an amount of **\$200.00** pursuant to RSA 72:28. The credit shall take effect April 1, 2011 and shall be subtracted each year from the property tax on the veteran's residential property.

Motion to accept by Randy Morrison
Seconded by Stephen Davis

Passed by voice vote

11. To see if the Town will vote to adopt an exemption for the blind in accordance RSA 72:37 in the amount of \$15,000.

This \$15,000.00 from the “assessed value”.

**Motion to accept by Quentin Mack
Seconded by Mary Davis**

Passed by voice vote

12. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$161,988** to be placed into the **Bridge’s Capital Reserve fund**. Of this amount \$161,988 will come from the unexpended fund balance with no money coming from general 2011 taxation. These monies were reimbursed to the town for the Saunders Hill Bridge project. Board of Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

**Motion to accept by Stephen Davis
Seconded by Francis Muzzey**

The Bridge’s Capital Reserve fund was amended to read “Bridges Expendable Trust”.

**Motion to accept amended article by Stephen Davis
Seconded by Francis Muzzey**

Amended article passed by voice vote

13. To see if the town will vote to modify the **Elderly Exemptions** from property tax in the Town as provided in RSA 72:39-b. The question to be voted on as required by RSA 72:39-b, I(c) is as follows:

“Shall we modify the elderly exemptions from the property tax in the Town of Wentworth, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows:

For a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$10,000;
For a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$15,000;
For a person 80 years of age and older, \$25,000;

To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least five years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person’s spouse, they must have been married for at least five years. In addition the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$13,400, or if married a combined net income of less than \$20,400; and own net assets not in excess of \$35,000 excluding the value of the person’s residence”

**Motion to accept by Kevin Kay
Seconded by Palmer Koelb**

Passed by voice vote

14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$82,500** to be placed into the following **Expendable Trust Funds and Capital Reserve Funds**: Board of Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

a.Fire Truck (est. 1984)	\$15,000
b.Hwy Equipment & Vehicle (est. 1973)	\$15,000
c.Police Cruiser (est. 1993)	\$6,000
d.Town Bridges Fund (est. 1988)	\$1,500
e.Road Paving (est. 2002)	\$20,000
f.Fire Dept Site (est. 2004)	\$15,000
g.Transfer Station Recycling (est. 2008)	\$10,000
h.Town Hall Exp Trust (est. 2005)	\$0.0

**Motion to accept by Jeffry Ames
Seconded by Pete Chierichetti**

Motion to change the Town Bridges Fund to a zero amount failed.

**Motion to accept article as read by Randy Morrison
Seconded by Francis Muzzey**

Passed by voice vote

15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the total sum of **\$78,460.** to pay for the disposal and hauling of solid waste using the Town **Transfer Facility.**

**Motion to accept by Stephen Davis.
Seconded by Randy Morrison**

Article Amended to “the total sum of \$66,325.00

**Motion to accept amended article by Stephen Davis
Seconded by Francis Muzzey**

16. 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 conservation purposes as set forth in RSA ch. 36-A, at the discretion of the Conservation Commission.

**Motion to accept by Dona Springham
Seconded by Palmer Koelb**

Passed by voice vote

17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$72,275.** for the maintenance of the **Police Department** for the ensuing year.

Motion to accept by Kevin Kay
Seconded by Randy Morrison

Motion to amend article to \$65,429.00 failed

Motion to accept article as read by Randy Morrison
Seconded by Stephen Davis

Passed by voice vote

18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,500** for the cost and expenses associated with **Animal and Pest Control**.

Motion to accept by Kevin Kay
Seconded by Randy Morrison

Passed by voice vote

19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$19,000** for operating expenses for the **Warren/Wentworth Ambulance Service**.

Motion to accept by Paul Davis Jr.
Seconded by Brian Dubois

Passed by voice vote

20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$3,000** for the **Parks and Recreation Commission** for the maintenance of parks, including the Common, Library, Riverside Park, and Hamilton Memorial Field.

Motion to accept by Pete Chierichetti
Seconded by Brian Dubois

Passed by voice vote

The Parks and Recreation Commission is dissolved so therefore the “town” is responsible for the maintenance.

21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$36,826** for the **Webster Memorial Library expenses**; **\$5,862** to come from Library income, and the remaining sum of **\$30,964** to come from general 2011 taxation.

Motion to accept by Bernice Sullivan
Seconded by Palmer Koelb

Passed by voice vote

22. To see if the Town will vote to request the New Hampshire Legislature to approve a US Constitutional Amendment to restructure the US Congress, by Petition.

WHEREAS, the US Congress members have provided less and less support for constituents wants and have become more and more beholden to special interests that fund their reelection campaigns,
BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town request the New Hampshire Legislature to approve a US Constitutional Amendment with the following provisions:

Congressional Reform Act of 2011

1. Term Limits. 12 years only, one of the possible options below..
 - a. Two Six-year Senate terms
 - b. Six Two-year House terms
 - c. One Six-year Senate term and three Two-Year House terms
2. No Tenure / No Pension
A Congressman collects a salary while in office and receives no pay when they are out of office.
3. Congress (past, present & future) participates in Social Security.

All funds in the Congressional retirement fund move to the Social Security system immediately. All future funds flow into the Social Security system, and Congress participates with the American people.
4. Congress can purchase their own retirement plan, just as all Americans do.
5. Congress will no longer vote themselves a pay raise. Congressional pay will rise by the lower of CPI or 3%.
6. Congress loses their current health care system and participates in the same health care system as the American people.
7. Congress must equally abide by all laws they impose on the American people.
8. All contracts with past and present Congressmen are void effective 4/1/11.
9. After leaving office all Congressmen will be unable to receive any remuneration from any organization that provides lobbying services to the US Congress for five years.

Motion to table article indefinitely failed

**Motion to move article to a vote by Charles Stata III
Seconded by Kevin Kay**

Passed by voice vote

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

1. To see if the Town will vote to approve the following resolution to forwarded to our State Representatives, our State Senator, and our Governor:

Resolved: We the citizens of Wentworth, NH are opposed to the electrical transmission project known as “Northern Pass” for the following reasons:

- **The project is too intrusive on the landscape of our Town.**
- **The project would negatively impact land values and property valuations.**
- **While Wentworth and New Hampshire citizens bear all the construction impacts of this project, they do not share in any of the benefits in the form of lower cost or more reliable energy.**
- **We already have a large power line that cuts our Town in half, bringing hydropower to Massachusetts, again without any benefit to the residents of Wentworth or New Hampshire.**

**Motion to accept by Raymond Welch
Seconded by Dona Springham**

Passed by “unanimous” vote

- 2. Resolution to have Selectmen resolve issue with the Warren/Wentworth Ambulance Service by paying the money that is owed for the Ambulance purchase.**

**Motion to accept by Bernice Sullivan
Seconded by Kenyon Karl**

Passed by “unanimous” vote

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

**Donna J. King
Town Clerk**