

State of New Hampshire,
Town of Wentworth
Warrant for year 2016 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 election of the Town Officers for the Town of Wentworth will be held at the Wentworth Elementary School, 1247 Mt Moosilauke Hwy, Route 25, Wentworth NH, March 08, 2016. The polls will open at 11 am and close at 7 pm to bring in your votes on Article 1 (the election of Town Officers). All other articles will be presented, discussed and acted upon on Saturday, March 12, 2016 beginning at 1 pm, to be held at the Wentworth Elementary School.

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

Position	Term		
Selectman	3 years	Raymond R. Youngs	126
Treasurer	3 years	Deborah Vlk	137
Town Auditor	1 year	Martha Morrill	130
Town Moderator	2 years	Stephen Welch	133
Supervisor of Checklist	6 years	Paula K. Davis	136
Town Trustee	3 years	Charles Stata III	120
Town Trustee	1 year	George Morrill	134
Library Trustee	3 years	Sharon Sanborn	135
Cemetery Trustee	3 years	Steven Davis	7
Planning Board	3 years	George Morrill	134
Planning Board	1 year	Martha Morrill	2
Fire Commissioner	1 year	Jeffry Ames	114
Fire Commissioner	1 year	George Morrill	83
Fire Commissioner	1 year	Paul E. Davis Sr.	85

Passed voice vote

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 as read - Steve Davis

2nd : Peter Santom

Passed by voice vote

3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$248,828** for **General Municipal Operations** for the purposes detailed in the operating budget posted with the warrant, to come from 2016 general taxation. This article does not include any amounts contained in any other article. (Majority vote required).

Motion to accept as read - Steve Davis

2nd : Chris Bassingthwaite

Passed by voice vote

4. To see if the Town will vote to compensate the combined office of **Town Clerk and Tax Collector** and further, to raise and appropriate **\$26,500**, plus usual benefits and mileage given to Town employees, in lieu of all statutory fees. This salary shall cover all duties associated with the combined office, and requires the office being open to the public at least 20 hours per week until the town shall vote otherwise.

Motion to accept as read - Chris Bassingthwaite

2nd: Steven Davis

Passed by show of hands: YES 40 NO 13

5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$47,400** for the purpose of the **2016 Revaluation**, of which \$47,400 to come from the Revaluation Capital Reserve, resulting in no cost from 2016 general taxation. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

Motion to accept as read - Peter Santom

2nd : Chris Bassingthwaite

Motion to amend – Tim Minear

2nd by Paul Davis Sr.

Amended motion passed by voice vote

Amended article by Tim Minear to read: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$47,400.00 for the purpose of the 2016 Revaluation, of which \$47,400.00 to come from the Reappraisal Capital Reserve, resulting in no cost from 2016 general taxation.

Amended article passed by voice vote

6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$20,114** for the following **Health Agencies and Organizations**:

American Red Cross (provides emergency & disaster relief)	\$700.00
Bridge House	\$2,000.00
CADY (Communities for Alcohol and Drug free Youth)	\$1,000.00
CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates for children)	\$500.00
Genesis (mental health care)	\$1,500.00
Grafton County Senior Citizens (meals, transportation, etc)	\$1,200.00
Mid-State Health Center	\$1,216.00
Ammonoosuc Community Health Center (healthcare/counseling)	\$2,500.00
Pemi-Baker Community Health (homecare, hospice, family health)	\$4,265.00
Tri-CAP (fuel assistance, food, electrical & referral assistance)	\$2,000.00
Visiting Nurse Alliance of NH/VT (homecare, hospice, family health)	\$1,733.00
Voices Against Violence (domestic& sexual violence)	\$1,500.00

Motion to accept as read - Peter Santom
2nd : Chris Bassingthwaite

Motion to admend – Charles Stata III
2nd : Glen Wyman

Amended motion passed by voice vote

Amended article by Marina Reilly-Collette to read: To admend the amount to Mid - State Center to \$210.00 requested in their letter

Amended article Passed by voice vote

7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,500** 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 - Francis Muzzey
2nd : Paul Davis Jr.

Passed by voice vote

8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$32,870** for the maintenance of the **Fire Department** for the ensuing year, of that amount \$860 to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance and \$32,010 to come from 2016 general taxation

Motion to accept - Jeff Ames
2nd : Paul Davis Sr.

Motion to amend – Patti Welch
2nd: Chris Bassingthwaite

Amended motion passed by voice vote

Amended article by Patti Welch: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$34,870 for the maintenance of the Fire Department for the ensuing year, of that amount \$860 to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance and \$34,010 to come from 2016 general taxation. The extra \$2000.00 (two thousand dollars) to go for more pay for each fire member.

Amended article passed by voice vote

9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$10,000** for the purpose of **refurbishing the pump on the 1997 International Fire Truck** (Replacement cost for this truck ranges in the \$300,000 range). This pump refurbish should give the Town another 10 – 15 years of service.\

Motion to accept - Jeff Ames

2nd : Brian Dubois

Passed by voice vote

10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$450,000** for the **Highway Department** for the ensuing year, of which \$80,000 to come from the Paving Capital Reserve, \$53,800 to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance, 53,800 to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance, an offset of approximately \$25,182 to come from the State Highway Block Grant Aid and the remainder to come from 2016 general taxation. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Motion to accept - Peter Santom

2nd : Chris Bassingthwaite

Passed by a show of hands: Yes 46 No 7

11. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to continue the fifth year of the 5 year lease agreement, for the purpose of leasing of a **2012 International Plow Truck** for the **Highway Department**, and to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$33,345** for the fifth and final year's payment for that purpose. This lease agreement contains an escape clause. (Majority vote required)

Motion to accept - Peter Santom

2nd : Chris Bassingthwaite

Passed by a voice vote

12. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the selectmen to continue the second year of the 7 year lease agreement, for the purpose of leasing a **2014 Freightliner** Dump/Plow Truck for the **Highway Department**, and to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$24,679** for the second year's payment for that purpose. This lease agreement contains an escape clause. (Majority vote required)

Motion to accept - Peter Santom

2nd: Chris Bassingthwaite

Passed by voice vote

13. To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the existing **Bridge Expendable Trust Fund**, established in 2006 for the purpose of repairing and/or rebuilding Saunders Hill Rd Bridge, Evans Bridge, and Dufour Bridge, to now be for the purpose of repairing and/or rebuilding Town owned Bridges, and to continue to appoint the Selectmen as agents to expend this fund. (Requires 2/3 majority vote).

Motion to accept - Steven Davis
2nd: Chris Bassingthwaite

Passed by a show of hands: Yes 54 No 3

14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$400** to be expended by the **Trustees of the Trust** Fund for expenses related to attending conferences and training as deemed necessary by the Trustees. (Majority vote required)

Motion to accept - Charles Stata III
2nd: Chris Bassingthwaite

Passed by voice vote

15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate **\$800** to be expended by the **Conservation Commission** in connection with its activities for such conservation purposes as set forth in RS A 36-A, at the discretion of the Conservation Commission.

Motion to accept - Eleanor Murray
2nd: Chris Bassingthwaite

Passed by voice vote

16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$134,000** to be placed into the following **Expendable Trust Funds and Capital Reserve Funds**, to come from 2016 general taxation. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

a. Fire Truck (est. 1984)	\$15,000
b. Hwy Equipment & Vehicle (est. 1973)	\$15,000
c. Police Cruiser (est. 1993)	\$9,000
d. Property Revaluation	\$10,000
e. Town Bridges Fund	\$10,000
f. Road Paving (est. 2002)	\$50,000
g. Fire Dept Site (est. 2004)	\$15,000
h. Webster Library Trust	\$10,000

Motion to accept - Eleanor Murray
2nd: Steven Davis

Motion to amend:
Charles Stata III
2nd: Marina O’Rielly-Collette

Amended article by Charles Stata III: change line item (b.) Hwy Equipment & Vehicle (est. 1973) to \$55,000

Amendment was defeated by voice vote
Original article passed by voice vote

17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$89,750** for the purpose of disposal and hauling of solid waste and associated costs of maintenance for the Town **Transfer Station**, to come from 2016 general taxation. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation.

Motion to accept - Donna King
2nd: Eleanor Murray

Motion to amend - Charles Stata III
2nd : Kenneth Cilley

Amended article by Charles Stata III: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$79,750.00 for the purpose of disposal and hauling of solid waste associated costs of maintenance for the Town Transfer Station, to come from 2016 general taxation

Amendment was defeated by voice vote
Original article passed by voice vote

18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$78,104** for the maintenance of the **Police Department** for the ensuing year, of which \$14,300 to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance, and the remainder to come from 2016 general taxation.

Motion to accept - Pete Chierichetti
2nd by Chris Bassingthwaite

Passed by voice vote

19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$850** for costs and expenses associated with **Animal and Pest Control**.

Motion to accept - Steven Davis
2nd: Paul Davis Sr

Passed by voice vote

20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$21,500** for operating expenses for **Ambulance Services**

Motion to accept - Steven Davis

2nd : Paul Davis Sr.

Passed by voice vote

21. To see if the Town will vote to **increase the net income allowance** for the **Elderly Exemptions** from property tax in the Town as provided for 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 three 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 \$17,000, or if married a combined net income of less than \$26,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$45,000 excluding the value of the person's residence”** (Comment: If a majority of those voting on the question vote yes, the Elderly Exemptions shall take effect on April 1, 2016.)

Motion to accept – Francis Muzzey

2nd : Steve Davis

Passed by voice vote

22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,060** for the **Parks and Recreation** for the general maintenance of parks, including the Common, Library, Riverside Park, and Hamilton Memorial Field to come from 2016 general taxation.

Motion to accept - Paul Davis Jr.

2nd : Paul Davis Sr.

Passed by voice vote

23. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$4,000** for the purchase and display of **Fireworks** for the **250th Town of Wentworth Celebration**.

Motion to accept - Jeff Ames

2nd: Francis Muzzey

Passed by voice vote

24. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$39,456** for the **Webster Memorial Library** expenses; \$2,125 to come from Library income, \$785 to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance and the remaining sum of \$36,546 to come from 2016 general taxation.

Motion to accept - Doug Campbell
2nd: Paul Davis Jr.

Passed by voice vote

25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$1,200** for the maintenance and expenses associated with the Wentworth **Historical Society Museum** and the grounds on which it is situated. A portion of this sum will be used towards the planned 250th Celebration events.

Motion to accept -Eleanor Murray
2nd: Paul Davis Sr.

Passed by voice vote

26. To see if the Town will vote to change the **Town Hall Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund**, previously established in 2000 to the Town Hall Expendable Capital Reserve Fund and further **appoint the Selectmen as agents** to expend from this Capital Reserve Fund. (Requires 2/3 majority vote).

Motion to accept - Steve Davis
2nd: Eleanor Murray

Passed by a show of hands Yes 50 No 0

27. To see if the Town will vote to place a question on the **State Election Ballot to Change the Hours at which the polls shall open**, as allowed by RSA 659:4-a, by approving the following:

"Polling hours in the Town of Wentworth are now 8 am to 7 pm. Shall we place a question on the state election ballot to change polling hours so that polls shall open at 11 am and close at 7 pm for all regular state elections beginning 2017?"

Motion to accept - Paul Davis Sr.
2nd: Doug Campbell

Passed by a show of hands Yes 35 No 13

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

Craig Pasco went over the schedule of events that will be going on throughout the year to celebrate the Town of Wentworth's 250 Anniversary.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna J. King". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "D".

Donna J. King, Town Clerk